

OVERSEAS

Quarterly journal of the ROSL

Issue 2, June-August 2015



ANZAC perspectives

Six-page tribute marking the centenary of the heroic NZ and Australian contribution to WWI

Garden unveiled

How the new Terrace and English Garden have transformed ROSL's outdoor space

Historic events

From two fascinating battlefield tours to the Waterloo Ball, don't miss our top events

Into the future

Simon Ward celebrates a successful financial year for ROSL and looks ahead to his time as Chairman

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OVERSEAS

ISSUE 2 June-August 2015

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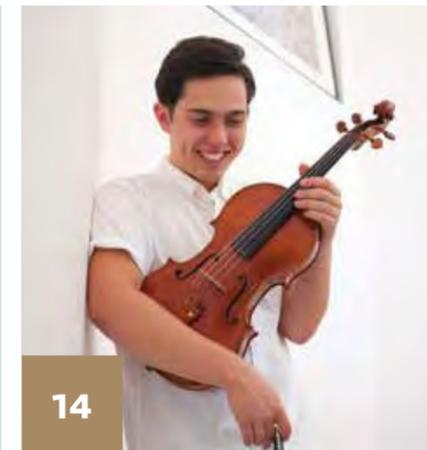
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FRONT COVER: Photograph of life behind the lines during the Gallipoli campaign, taken on an early pocket camera by an NZ soldier © Auckland War Memorial Museum

From the Director-General

The Director-General's musings at this time of year seem, on investigation, to be much about refurbishment and building works. I suppose that this is not very surprising and, as nature rouses itself from its winter slumber, we too get busy with brush, trowel and spade.

In 2013, the major programme was the Edinburgh roof; in 2014, the Brabourne Room and Duke of York Bar. This year we are working to complete the refurbishment of the second floor bedrooms on the Westminster Wing, having completed those on the third floor in early January. I am very grateful for the positive comments we have received about the latter.

The Terrace outside the Bar is now complete and open for use, and the Garden is being transformed from a construction site into a beautiful English town garden (see page 18). This will take three years to achieve fully but I hope that you will be impressed by progress even this summer. In Edinburgh, we plan a new access staircase to the roof and a remodelled Reception area.

I would like to pay a personal tribute to Sir Anthony Figgis, who stepped down as our Chairman at the AGM in May. I have been privileged to have begun my time as Director-General with his wise and unfailing counsel, and innate sense of what would and would not work. I am immensely grateful to him and Mayella for their hardwork, support and friendship.

It is, with the next breath, a delight to see Mr Simon Ward step into Sir Anthony's shoes. Simon has been a tremendously effective Hon Treasurer for many years, for which many are very grateful; he will be a fine Chairman. Simon and Raye, may I pass on to you both, publicly, the very best

wishes for the next five years from all the staff in London and Edinburgh.

We continue with our commemoration of WWI in this issue, and our focus is naturally on Gallipoli, where operations involving the ANZAC, British, Indian and Newfoundland troops were underway 100 years ago. You will find much of interest on pages 5-11, and I am very grateful to our members and friends in Australia and New Zealand for producing material so enthusiastically.

We are organising a visit to Gallipoli in 2016 (it being impossible to visit the sites in this commemorative year). Details of this unique ROSL-led trip are on page 28, with bookings now open. Meanwhile, our Battlefield Tour this July will help us explore warfare in Europe in the 18th (Oudenarde), 19th (Waterloo) and 20th (Mons) centuries (see page 32).

The 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo is exciting much activity in clubland, and ROSL has put together an informative and fun programme, which includes a Discussion Group lecture, a London Group dinner with a descendant of the Duke as Guest of Honour, a vibrant Waterloo Summer Ball and the Battlefield Tour (see pages 29-32).

Looking further ahead, may I draw your attention to three of our events for the year: the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Art Weekend in August, and the wine tour to Burgundy in September (see pages 33-34). There is plenty to choose from and I hope you will enjoy this busy programme.

We are looking forward to an entertaining summer and you can be assured of a warm welcome at the clubhouses in London and Edinburgh. Please come and enjoy the programme and the new facilities.

Roddy Porter



EXCITING PLANS: Roddy Porter discusses plans for the Garden with gardeners Jane Atwell and Lindsay Sharrier

Editor's letter

As I write, almost 500 school children from schools across Cairns are coming together to perform a beautiful and moving tribute to the young Australians and New Zealanders who fought



in WWI. Every year, the two nations remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice – many died on the battlefield and those who survived returned physically and mentally scarred – on the day the ANZAC force landed at Gallipoli. Marking the centenary of that tragic campaign, the commemorations on Anzac Day this year are bigger and more poignant than ever, and aim to touch more people, particularly the younger generation (pages 6 and 10).

The Gallipoli Campaign has become part of a founding myth for modern Australia and New Zealand, and Dr Carl Bridge tries to sort fact from fiction on page 8. ROSL Director-General Roddy Porter provides an overview (opposite), introducing our Focus for this issue, which takes a fresh look at the campaign and those who were affected by it.

As we continue to delve into the *Overseas* archives, celebrating the journal's 100th year, we have unearthed some fascinating early stories about the club's war efforts and support for the Allied troops and ANZAC soldiers more specifically (page 13). Much of the material for our 1915 timeline (page 7) – covering the key events of the war and ROSL's involvement in it – also comes from our journal. It remains a rich source of information about important developments throughout the Commonwealth, as well as in the club itself.

Our 'snapped reading' series is continuing to capture members' imaginations, with two of the photos printed in this issue's 'News and Views' (pages 20-22), along with pictures of some of our successful recent events. Do send your pictures to editor@rosl.org.uk.

In addition to our packed calendar (pages 28-34), there are some fantastic events happening in London and Edinburgh this summer – making it a particularly difficult task to choose this edition's top 10 (page 26). Just outside London, Music at Woodhouse – in a magical woodland setting – sounds like open-air opera at its best (page 27).

Miranda Moore

FOCUS

Gallipoli: a short history

Director-General **Roddy Porter** gives an overview of the WWI campaign that took more than 11,000 young ANZAC lives in just nine months

Allied troops landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Ottoman Turkey at dawn on 25 April 1915. The Allies, encouraged by Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, had developed an operational plan to allow Allied shipping to pass through the Dardanelles, capture Constantinople and knock Turkey out of the war. The Gallipoli Campaign was the land-based contribution to fulfil this plan. The Allies hoped to relieve pressure on the Western Front by diverting German forces to prop up the Turks; weaken the Central Powers, enabling Britain and France to support Russia; and help cement the British presence in the Middle East. Success depended on Ottoman opposition quickly crumbling.

Following abortive maritime attempts to force the Straits in March 1915, the British Secretary of State for War, Lord Kitchener, appointed General Sir Ian Hamilton to command a Mediterranean Expeditionary Force that was to clear Ottoman troops, especially artillery, from the Peninsula to enable naval forces to reach the Black Sea. Hamilton ordered landings of the British 29th Division at Cape Helles and the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) north of Gaba Tepe, a place that would become known as Anzac Cove. Both landings quickly ran into determined Ottoman defences and neither the British nor the ANZACs were able to advance.

The fighting quickly stagnated into trench warfare as the Allies sought to break out of their coastal positions under effective Ottoman fire, particularly intensive at Anzac Cove. Casualties in both locations mounted rapidly and, in the summer heat, conditions deteriorated. Sickness spread, food became inedible, and troops were pestered by the swarms of black corpse flies.

In August 1915, a new assault was launched north of Anzac Cove towards Chunuk Bair. This attack, along with renewed efforts at Suvla Bay, quickly failed and stalemate returned. Finally, in December, it was decided to evacuate Anzac and Suvla, followed by Helles in January 1916.

Gallipoli was a disaster for the Allies but a defining moment in the history of Australia and New Zealand. Their soldiers had gained a reputation for endurance, determination, initiative and 'mateship', which has defined Australians and New Zealanders ever since.

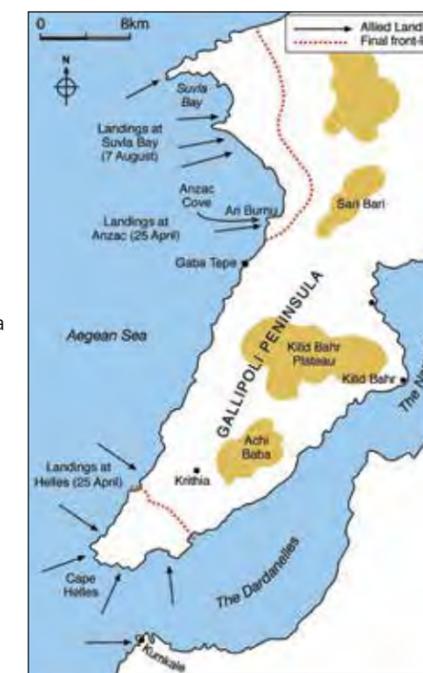
Victory was insufficient to arrest, for long, the decline of the Ottoman Empire but, through the emergence of Mustafa Kemal (Kemal Atatürk), one of the Ottoman's divisional commanders at Gallipoli, it brought into the picture the man who would found modern Turkey.

ROSL is conducting a Battlefield Tour of Gallipoli in 2016. See page 28 for details.



Images: © Auckland War Memorial Museum

LAND AND SEA: New Zealand soldiers at Gallipoli (above and bottom); and a map of the Dardanelles and Gallipoli Peninsula showing the key areas of fighting and approaches by the ANZAC Force



Facts and figures: 25 April 1915 – 9 January 1916

	Allies	Central Powers
Belligerents	Britain, Australia, New Zealand, India, Newfoundland, France	Ottoman Empire, Germany, Austria
Commanders	Ian Hamilton, Herbert Kitchener, John de Robeck, William Birdwood, Henri Gouraud	Mehmet Esat Bulkat, Cevat Çobanlı, Mustafa Kemal
Strengths	489,000 British, Australian, New Zealand; 79,000 French*	315,000 Ottomans*
Casualties/losses	252,000*	218,000-251,000*

*Approximate figures

NZ will remember

Roy Clare considers how New Zealand should commemorate its contribution to WWI with a look at the Auckland War Memorial Museum's programme



Resisting the fashion to re-design is itself an act of respect. People who visit emerge thoughtful and better informed

'If any question why we died, tell them, because our fathers lied.'
Rudyard Kipling, Epitaphs of the 'War', 1919

Founded in 1852, Auckland War Memorial Museum (AM) is New Zealand's first museum and among its largest. Its collections are encyclopaedic, spanning natural sciences, human history and war commemoration. Each year, more than 850,000 people visit the stately building in The Domain public park on the rim of an extinct volcano, with views to the Pacific Ocean. The classical architecture was designed in the 1920s as an enduring proclamation – 'we will remember them' – for those from Auckland Province who gave their lives in the First World War. A century on, the museum is conscious of its responsibility to support public study, research and commemoration.

In its commitment to WWI, New Zealand was second to none. More than 100,000 soldiers were sent overseas, including 2,200 Maori and 500 Pacific Islanders. At Gallipoli, the New Zealand Expeditionary Force formed part of ANZAC (the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps). The war would ultimately claim 18,000 New Zealand lives – 2,779 at Gallipoli alone. The dead are listed in around 500 war memorials throughout the country; AM records more than 7,200 from Auckland Province.

The commemoration of war is too easily subverted by the genuinely confused, and too readily distorted by those with an agenda. In principle, museums avoid taking sides; they

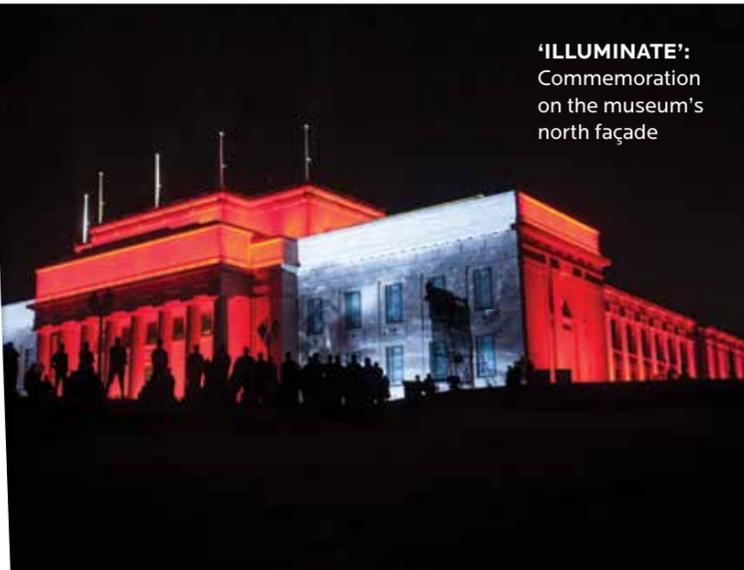
are civic spaces where the most appalling and risky aspects of the human condition can be considered safely. Museums liberate perspectives, present facts, enlighten and inform, resisting perceptions cloaked as 'truths'. AM has shunned ephemeral activities that risk trivialising commemoration; instead, its approach promotes a respectful understanding of a history that was profoundly costly.

The museum's commemorative programme, 'He toa taumata rau: Courage has many resting places', a partnership with Auckland Council, adopts themes for each year of the centenary. In 2014, 'Duty and Adventure' reflected the enthusiasm of the 8,000 mainly very young men involved. 2015 recognises Gallipoli as a significant milestone for New Zealand, with 'Death of Innocence' marking the impact of the landings.

AM has retained a primary gallery tracing New Zealand involvement in WWI. 'Scars on the Heart', more than 25 years old, is moving and compelling. Resisting the fashion to re-design and modernise is itself an act of respect. People who visit this exhibition are drawn into the well-told and highly-charged stories, emerging thoughtful and better-informed.

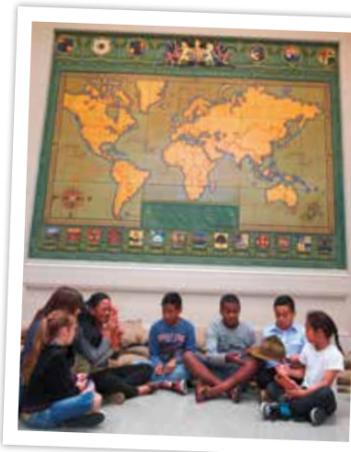
Facilities for study and knowledge-sharing are being upgraded. For

THE FALLEN:
Visitors view the Halls of Memory at Auckland War Memorial Museum (below left)



'ILLUMINATE':
Commemoration on the museum's north façade

UP CLOSE:
(Left) Photos by NZ soldiers in Gallipoli, some with handwritten captions such as 'Bombproof?' (l); and (right) school children at the museum



instance, rare images of the ANZACs, held in the museum's collections, are available for research; a small exhibition narrated the occupation of German Samoa, New Zealand's first operational act in 1914; and 'Gallipoli in Minecraft®' presents a digitised understanding of the disaster.

Responding to the growing popularity of web-based resources, the museum, with partners, has re-configured the 'Cenotaph' digital memorial, first created in 1996 as a Roll of Honour. 'Online Cenotaph' has become a national biographical database of New Zealanders who served in conflict, and people are encouraged to upload information themselves. The museum has also raised funds to develop physical spaces for studying war records and learning about those who served. Via a mobile unit, it is reaching out to people and communities, seeking letters, diaries, images and other materials for the public database. These investments add to the legacy for future generations.

AM's teams are shaping the commemoration sensitively, enabling people to participate in learning about New Zealand's contribution as a sovereign nation and within ANZAC; share knowledge; reflect on the massive sacrifices made for our freedom; draw future lessons; and honour the promise: 'we will remember them'.

For a review of the museum's book, *The Anzacs: An inside view of New Zealanders at Gallipoli*, see page 14.

Director of Auckland War Memorial Museum since 2011, ROSL member Roy Clare CBE was previously Director of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, and a Rear Admiral in the Royal Navy. www.aucklandmuseum.com

WWI timeline

- 18 January First German Zeppelin attack on Britain
- 19 January Battle of Neuve Chapelle: British and Indian troops attack German Forces in Artois
- February - April Second Battle of Ypres begins. Germans use poison gas for the first time
- 10 March Australian, British and New Zealand troops land in Gallipoli
- 24 May Final Battle of Krithia begins at Gallipoli
- 4 June German South-West Africa surrenders to South African Forces
- 9 July Battle of Sari Bair. Final attempt by Australian, British and NZ troops to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula
- 6 August Battle of Loos
- 25 September German Fokker aircraft gives Germany air superiority on Western Front
- 1 October Siege of Kut: British and Indian troops surrounded by Turkish forces
- 22 November Allies evacuate Gallipoli
- 7 December
- 20 December
- 30 December

1915

- 18 January Over-Seas Aircraft Fund established
- 19 January Rutland Hospital set up with 22 beds in the drawing and ball rooms, and an operating theatre in the Duchess's bedroom
- 10 March Over-Seas Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund established (exact date unknown)
- 22 April Over-Seas Belgian Soldiers' Fund established
- 24 May Over-Seas Club gives certificates to children who contributed to the 'Children's Penny Appeal', which raised £10,000 for comforts for the troops
- 4 June HM Queen Alexandra visits the Royal Aircraft Factory in Farnborough and names four aircraft donated by the Over-Seas Club
- 9 July
- 6 August
- 25 September Evelyn Wrench receives proofs of first edition of *Overseas*
- 7 December
- 20 December Queen Alexandra sends letter thanking members for their generosity in supporting troops
- 30 December

ROSL timeline

FOCUS

Murdoch's explosive letter home

Why the young journalist risked his career to highlight the 'unwarranted risk' of the Gallipoli campaign. By Carl Bridge

After the failure of the August offensive at Gallipoli, the Australian Prime Minister, Andrew Fisher, sent his friend and fellow parishioner, the young journalist Keith Murdoch, to the peninsula on a fact-finding mission. Murdoch was shocked by what he found. He interviewed all of the Australian generals and some of the British General Staff, and also saw things with his own eyes.

In London, on 21 September, he typed an excoriating 8,000-word philippic, telling Fisher his 'fears had been justified' and the 'slender perch on the cliffs' was an unwarranted risk. 'You would have wept... if you had gone with us over the ground where two of our finest Light Horse regiments were wiped out in ten minutes in a brave attempt to advance a few yards to Dead Man's Ridge. We lost 500 men, squatters' sons and farmers' sons, on that terrible spot. Such is the cost of so much as looking out over the top of our trenches.'

He went on: 'The spirit at Suvla is simply deplorable... It is not for me to judge [Commander-in-Chief, Sir Ian] Hamilton, but it is plain when an army has lost complete faith in its general... He has very seldom been at Anzac. He lives at Imbros. The French call him the General who lives on an Island... This unfortunate expedition has never been given a chance.'

The letter, partisan and highly coloured as it was – and gratuitously omitting the achievements of the British soldiers at Helles – contained irrefutable evidence about the morale of the Australians, among others. Murdoch also gave it, in confidence, to Lloyd George (then Munitions Minister), who shared it with the British Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith. Sensing its explosive nature, Asquith had it printed as a British Cabinet document.

Hamilton was dismissed barely a fortnight later and the decision to



evacuate recommended by his successor soon afterwards. Murdoch's letter, along with a report from the British cabinet secretary who visited Gallipoli at the same time, and other evidence, was instrumental in the British cabinet's decision.

In February 1917, cross-examined before the Dardanelles Commission ordered by the British Parliament, Murdoch was accused of flouting censorship rules and courting treason. Fisher, by now High Commissioner in London and a member of the inquiry, defended his man.

Fisher: You... considered yourself in a privileged position as carrying a mandate from one self-governing dominion which was directly concerned with the operation of their forces in Gallipoli and elsewhere, to give your best impression of what you saw?

Murdoch: I considered that I was charged with a duty of reporting to my Government in Australia to the best of my ability.

Fisher: And you naturally felt that you would like to do the best not only for your country but for the Empire's forces now and always?

Murdoch: I think I risked my whole career. I am always prepared to offer everything I have to Australia. And so he had.



FOCUS

Myths and legends of ANZAC

Professor Carl Bridge separates fact from fiction in the 'first great drama of

century ago, on 25 April, some 40,000 British, French, Australian and New Zealand troops landed on the rugged Gallipoli peninsula in an effort to force the Dardanelles, knock Turkey out of the war, and open up a warm-water route to supply their Russian ally, ANZACs, as the Australians and New Zealanders were called, constituted about a quarter of the Allied effort. The Allies remained clinging to their beachheads and the sides of thousand-foot high precipitous gullies and gorges for eight months before the high command decided they would be better deployed on the Western Front.

More than twice as many British died at Gallipoli than Australians, and an equal number of French, yet ANZAC has come to constitute a foundation myth for both Australia and New Zealand. It was the first time the forces of the two newly-formed nations had fought on the world stage, and, in the words of the British war correspondent on the spot, 'this race of athletes' were 'tried and not found wanting'. The great Australian painter and mythographer, Sir Sidney Nolan, summed up the reason why this all mattered so much in 1964, when explaining his Gallipoli series:

'This was the first great drama of modern Australia – in which lads came out of the bush and went to the other side of the world, and found themselves with a kind of cliff to climb. And it all folded up on them... I think these boys returned with a feeling that they had a new world and a new civilisation to be built in Australia. All these people, all these heroes... exist... in a kind of dream, larger than life, almost unreal, in the way Achilles and Hector exist for us. We still use them as symbols for our dilemmas, don't we?... I must treat it as a myth or story that belongs to all the history of Australia... and becomes a symbol of what Australia has done and can do, despite her rather grim beginnings.' As the journalist and novelist George Johnston remarked of ANZAC: it is a 'myth for all mankind'.



There was real heroism on Gallipoli. At Lone Pine in August, the Australians won seven Victoria Crosses in three days of hand-to-hand fighting. While at the Nek, 550 dismounted Victorian and Western Australian Light Horse infantry charged in four waves across a ridge the size of two tennis courts and only 47 came out unscathed, with 262 killed in action.

The charge at the Nek was Balaclava-like, displaying 'reckless obedience', as the official historian wrote. Unlike in the 1981 Peter Weir feature film, *Gallipoli*, however, the officer who ordered that the charge continue was an Australian not, as most viewers are led to believe, a product of perfidious Albion. Nor did the Australians look down to see the British nonchalantly

ADVANTAGE:
The Ottoman Battery at Gallipoli (left)

WAR PAINTINGS:
(Above l-r) New generations continue to be moved by works from Sir Sidney Nolan's Gallipoli series (1961); 'Anzacs Bathing in the Sea' (1914) by official Australian war artist George Washington Lambert; and Lambert's 'A Sergeant of the Light Horse' (1920)

ANZAC

modern Australia'

having tea on the beach at Suvla Bay, as the movie suggests. Suvla is a full 4km away and the British incurred 1,700 casualties in their landing there. Further, it was an Australian, Brigadier Monash, who failed to capture an adjacent crest and thus left the Light Horse so vulnerable to the Turkish enfilading fire.

There are other riddles of ANZAC. It is often said that the troops landed in the wrong place, their boats pushed a mile north by a strong current. Yet when Australian naval historians asked the Turkish naval hydrographers, they reported that there never was such a current in that part of the Mediterranean. Truth was that they landed in part of the zone originally designated and were fortunate to land where they did, because a more southerly landing would have placed them right in the middle of a Turkish artillery 'killing box' protecting the Maidos Plain.

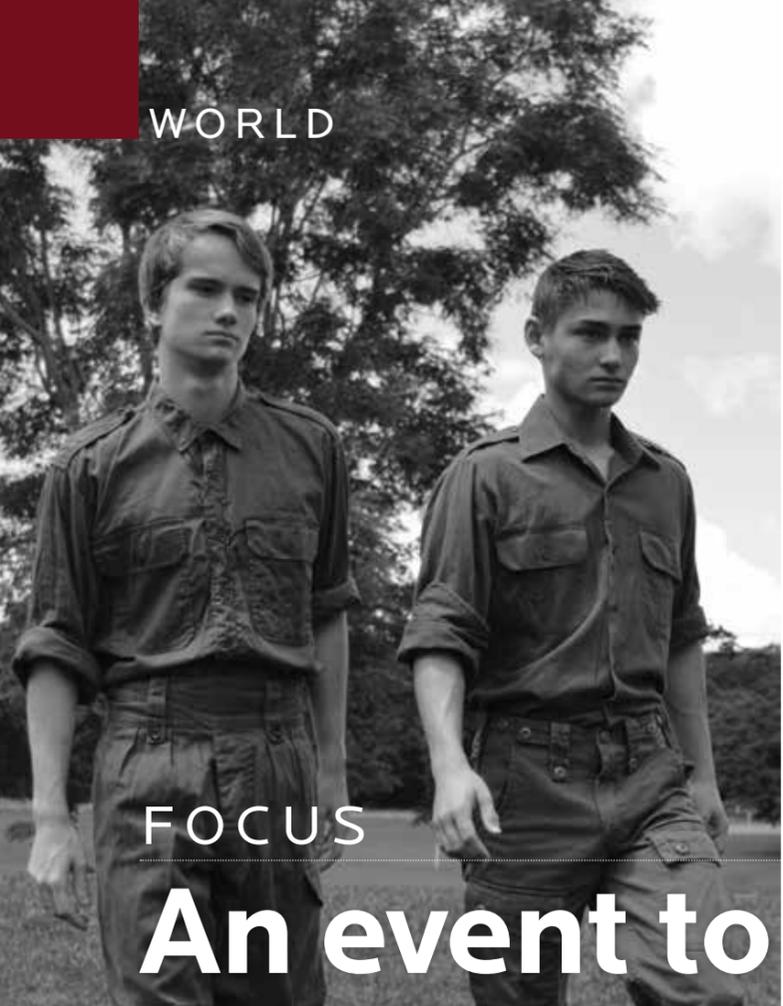
Only twice in the campaign did troops get to the top of Sari Bair and glimpse the Narrows below. On the first day, two small parties of ANZACs did so, only to be forced off. And in August, a mixed party of Gurkhas and Warwickshires momentarily held the second highest point, Chunuk Bair, before being overwhelmed.

The Turkish troops, with their German artillery, never gave up the high ground at Gallipoli and maintained their advantage throughout. Anyone walking the battlefield today can only marvel that the ANZACs and their British, French and Indian colleagues clung on for as long as they did. In all, it was a noble failure.

Yet, struggling against insurmountable adversity is the very stuff of Australian national identity, and Gallipoli is its principal manifestation. It set the template for the WWII campaigns at Tobruk and Kokoda, and the Battle of Long Tan in Vietnam. This year, as the official Australian memorial campaign tells us, we celebrate '100 Years of Anzac: The Spirit Lives'.

Carl Bridge is Professor of Australian Studies at the Menzies Centre, King's College London.

Struggling against adversity is the stuff of Australian national identity



FOCUS

An event to remember

Mark Walton reflects on composing a powerful musical tribute

Receiving the invitation from the inspirational Cairns music teacher, Maureen Cameron, to compose 'Reflections of Anzac' was a tremendous honour. The piece would be performed at Cairns Cathedral in April as part of the largest commemoration of the landing of Australian and New Zealand forces in Gallipoli during WWI. Marking the centenary of Anzac Day, the project included three concerts by almost 500 young singers, instrumentalists, narrators, poets and drama students from schools in the area. My brief was to write something that showcased some especially talented individual performers yet gave everyone an interesting part to play or sing.

A blank page is a thrilling and daunting challenge so the first step was to write some lyrics that would both capture the spirit of the unique ANZAC story and relate to the young musicians. I read extensively on the ANZACs and wrote down poignant phrases in the hope that my vocal text would resonate with the children. Because of the huge number of performers, drawn from so many different schools, whatever I wrote had to be easily approachable, so that it could be put together with the minimum of rehearsals.

Over the summer holidays in New Zealand I worked on the score, writing and deleting until I felt I had the overall shape. I then went to London where, in every spare moment between judging the ROSL Annual Music Competition in Park Place, I worked on the score, trying to complete this large orchestration in time for the start of the Australian school year in early February. I felt it was strangely appropriate that I should be working on 'Reflections' within a stone's throw of Whitehall, where a

number of decisions were made that affected so many young ANZAC lives.

'Reflections of Anzac' starts with a stirring trumpet melody accompanied by a marching drummer entering from the back of the cathedral. For this, I sought help from a friend who is a drummer in the Royal Marines Band in England, to help create a truly authentic effect.

Once completed, I emailed the score to Maureen Cameron, hoping that what I had created was close to what she had hoped for. I heard nothing for two days and then, to my utmost relief, an email arrived headed 'Perfect'. It was a real privilege to write this piece, not only for all the young performers in Far North Queensland, but also to pay my own personal tribute to the extraordinarily brave soldiers who fought for our freedom.

Mark Walton is a clarinettist, saxophonist, composer and teacher. He won the ROSL Annual Music Competition Gold Medal in 1978.

Honouring the ANZAC sacrifice

'Reflections of Anzac' was born through the determination of Maureen Cameron and her husband Bryan Hurdley to honour the ANZAC sacrifice. They first secured AUS\$47,589 from the Australia Government Veterans' Affairs Anzac Centenary Local Grants programme to pay for professional writers and dramatists, and then additional funding from St Andrew's Catholic College, Catholic Education Cairns and local businesses to support the project further.

Cairns Catholic schools were invited to perform a programme of scripture, verse, song and drama in a commemorative concert. During the event, 13,000 specially designed plaques, each with a personal message from a student or staff member, were exhibited at St Monica's Cathedral.

POIGNANT: Cairns school children get ready for a moving performance during dress rehearsals for 'Reflections of Anzac' in April



FOCUS

A celebrated Australian hero

ROSL member **Robyn Collins** charts the exploits of her uncle, Lt Maxwell



Joseph Maxwell was an enthusiastic cadet before WWI. When the war started, he, like a lot of young boys, wanted to enlist because they thought it would be an adventure. He went on to become Australia's second most decorated soldier of the First World War, receiving four medals for his bravery in just one year (1915-1916).

When the fighting began, particularly after Gallipoli, many doubted they would ever see home again. However, reading Joe's book, *Hell's Bells and Mademoiselles*, you would have thought the war was one big party. He was hospitalised a number of times but rather than dwell on the horror, he focused on the great times he had in Paris and on leave in London. I don't think that was how he really felt, but that was what he wanted to portray.

Joe didn't talk much about his heroics, but the actions that earned him the Victoria Cross are well documented. When his company commander was wounded during an attack on the Beaufort-Fonsomme line in 1918, Joe took charge and captured a machine-gun. Shortly after, he single-handedly stopped a gun that was holding up a flank company. When he and two privates were taken prisoner, he led an escape that enabled them to return and take another post, forcing 20 Germans to surrender. His medals were presented at Buckingham Palace and, afterwards, he was saluted by passers-by as he walked along the Strand.

When Joe returned to Australia, he wrote his first book. It was so successful he was asked to write another. Unfortunately, or so the family story goes, he finished the book, went to see the publishers, then went to the pub and got so drunk that he left the book on the tram. It has not been seen since.

Joe was seen as the black sheep of the family, though I think he was fairly typical of the men that came back from war. They tried to get on with normal life; some managed, but a lot, like Joe, turned to drink. However, no matter what he got up to, he was still revered for his wartime heroics. Everyone in the Australian military looked up to him, including Sir Roden Cutler VC, Governor of New South Wales. He was often a guest of honour at parades and was presented to King George VI many times.

A few years ago, I went to Anzac Memorial Hyde Park in Sydney and was astounded to see a whole section devoted to Lt Joseph Maxwell VC MC & Bar DCM. It is amazing that, even to this day, people have heard of him.

Interview by Christine Wilde.



ANTHONY ABBOTT'S Perth

Your Foreign Office career took you from Lancashire to Chile, Montserrat and India. What attracted you to Perth?

Our daughter lives here and during our posting to Perth in the early 90s we made friends with lots of fascinating people – it is people rather than places that are the most important. Australians have a great sense of humour and any Brit can expect vibrant conversation – especially about cricket! The climate is almost unbeatable.

What would you miss most if you left?

The warmth and friendliness of the people, and the lifestyle. The restaurants serving the best seafood in the world, not to mention the excellent wines produced in the area. Also the wide range of sport, either to play or spectate, all year round.

What are your favourite things to do in Perth?

There are excellent walks around Kings Park or the esplanades along the Swan River. First-class restaurants abound, both in Perth and nearby Fremantle, and at the vineyards in the Swan Valley. It's an easy drive to the beautiful farming district of the South West and the popular township and vineyards of Margaret River.

What makes the city unique?

Perth is a long, narrow city that stretches 70km along the Indian Ocean coastline. Kings Park, overlooking the Swan River, is the pride and joy of Western Australians. The river itself cuts a picturesque route right through the city centre, with private boats and ferries taking people to the Swan Valley or Fremantle.

What is the cultural scene like?

The Perth Concert Hall is renowned for its outstanding acoustics, while Perth Arena is visited by stars and elite sports teams. There is a thriving theatre and music scene, including Perth Festival in February and March.

When is the best time to visit?

September/October or April/May to avoid the hottest and coldest times of the year.

British diplomat Anthony Abbott CMG OBE is Chairman of the Western Australia Branch. See page 14 to find out how the branch is supporting young musicians, and page 24 for their latest events.

Interview by Christine Wilde.



SCENIC WALKS: (From top) Perth waterfront; Kings Park memorial, overlooking Swan River; and the stunning Margaret River vineyard

Margaret River vineyard: Robert Young (CC BY 2.0); King's Park: Monica D (CC BY 2.0)

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From the archives

In *Overseas*' centenary year, we continue our look at stories of yesteryear

FROM THE MARCH 1916 ISSUE

World Chaos and After

The hearts of those who have worked for imperial unity beat high as they walk the Strand today, for that ancient thoroughfare has become the Empire's promenade. Everyone knows of the Strand, but the most sanguine imperialist of us never expected to see Australian and Canadian, Cape-Dutch and Quebec-French, West Indian and New Zealander daily fraternising in that old highway. It is sufficient thanks for the workers in the early up-hill days of the Over-Seas Club to sit in our comfortable smoking-room at the eastern end of the renowned street and listen to the war chat of men from all over the Empire.

To those of us who have lost kinsmen in the war it is some consolation to know that this upheaval of the world is bringing about a closer cohesion of the Five Nations that make the Empire. How glorious it is to feel that one's high expectations of the men from the Far West and the Far South have been more than realised. There have been times when pessimists have told us that the future destiny of Canada would be merged in that of the United States, that Australia and New Zealand would 'cut the painter'. How absurd those views are today! How strong is the link that binds the English-speaking people, and how loyal



ON TOUR: Photograph from Evelyn Wrench's 1913 tour of New Zealand

have proved the other races who live under the sway of King George's sceptre.

The coming of all these young men from the far corners of the earth is greatly beneficial to us at home. They bring new ideas, new vigour and outspokenness and freedom that will help us to shake off the shackles of conventionality born of a residence of a thousand years or more in our island... The horrible aspects of this war, its drab carnage, its remorseless waste of youth, sadden our minds so often that it is well to remember that the catastrophe is not without its advantages... Out of the World Chaos will emerge an even more glorious assemblage of Free British Nations.

Lord Northcliffe

FROM THE APRIL 1952 ISSUE

The League in New Zealand

Although the Over-Seas League has been alive in New Zealand for many years, it is only since 1949 that a serious effort has been made to consolidate the League's work in the Dominion and to establish an organisation on a permanent basis. In this year and in 1950 a number of new branches were established, and it speaks well for the enthusiasm of the officers in various centres that membership has more than doubled in less than twenty-four months.

New Zealand is placing special emphasis on that side of the League's work which concerns hospitality to visitors and on the study of Commonwealth affairs, encouraged by addresses from touring and local specialists.

Eleven fully formed Branches are now in operation... Auckland Branch, the oldest in New Zealand, now has a membership of nearly 900... [and] has been active in sending parcels of clothing to Britain, and in supporting citizens of destitute villages in Greece.

Donald Bain, General Secretary of the Over-Seas League in New Zealand



FROM THE AUGUST 1916 ISSUE

My Monthly Letter

No one could visit the Star and Garter as it is today without being tremendously affected. Anything we can do for the disabled seems so little; and perhaps nowhere – certainly at no other place which I have visited – does the tragic side of the War come home to one so ruthlessly. There is not glamour here, no excitement; just sixty young paralysed men – and their number will have grown to one hundred when the new buildings are finished. Sixty men – mere boys they look – who for the rest of their lives will spend their days lying in those beds, without the power of movement from the waist downwards. Sixty men who have served their country in Flanders, Gallipoli and Mesopotamia – and the end of it all is this Home for Disabled...

I am writing to you about my visit because you are helping in the work of caring for these men during the rest of their lives. So far, thanks to the generosity of friends over-seas, we have provided fifteen beds in the Star and Garter Home – twelve of which are paid for by the Patriotic Association of Newfoundland... The patriotism of the people of our oldest colony is without limit, and any good cause is always certain of an enthusiastic response.
Evelyn Wrench

TAKING CARE:

The Over-Seas Club and Patriotic League of Britons Over-Seas have presented over 100 Red Cross beds to date... One of the beds presented by our Member at Buenos Aires





JARED YAPP:
Travel Award winner

Supporting talent

Miles Glanville on the new WA Branch awards for young musicians

On a fine autumn Perth morning, with sunlight dancing across the gardens of the UWA School of Music, through the full-height windows of the Eileen Joyce Studio, members of the ROSL Western Australia Branch Committee took their seats with great anticipation to observe the inaugural ROSL (London) Travel Award adjudication and presentation. Nine candidates, some with piano accompaniment, performed a range of pieces, from Bach and Brahms to Reich, Debussy and Nielsen. Viola, violin, flute, clarinet and trumpet were handled masterfully by the students. Four hours later, the judges had made their decision.

The Travel Award came about through the support of the Director of Arts Roderick Lakin and Director-General Roddy Porter. On hearing that the WA Branch intended to establish a suite of music awards, they generously funded this prestigious prize, which takes the successful candidate to London for two weeks and to Edinburgh for ROSL's highly acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe Festival programme.

The inaugural winner is violist Jared Yapp, who will perform at Over-Seas House and elsewhere in London. He will have coaching sessions with prominent UK teachers, enjoy concerts in London, and participate in the Lake District Summer Music Academy – a truly life-changing experience.

ROSL WA has, for some years, provided prizes to students in the Royal Schools Music

Club singing competition, and these new awards came about when we decided to look into what other sponsorships might be possible. Toni Bishop (Branch Secretary), Nigel Rogers (Branch Treasurer) and Dr David McGechie joined me on an arts working group. Recommendations were then presented to the Branch Chairman, Tony Abbott, and ROSL WA Committee. The Head of the UWA School of Music, Dr Alan Lourens, brought the university on board, enabling ROSL members to receive tax deductions to the value of donations. The ROSL WA/UWA partnering was underway.

Inaugural ROSL WA undergraduate awards were presented to third-year students: Jared Yapp (performance \$2,000), James Bradbury (composition \$1,000) and percussionist Adam Tan (performance \$1,000). These awards are based on an assessment by the school's academic staff of performances throughout the academic year.

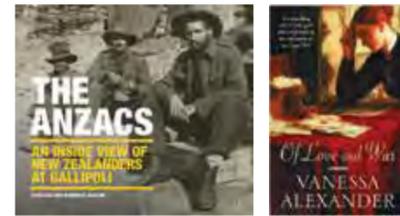
A \$15,000 donation from Dr McGechie and \$4,000 from the WA Branch Committee will enable ROSL WA's support of deserving young musicians to continue in the year ahead. In particular, Dr McGechie's generosity will be greatly appreciated by the winner of the Postgraduate/Masters Award (\$10,000), to be judged in October.

Miles Glanville is Deputy Chairman, ROSL WA Branch.

Viola, violin, flute, clarinet and trumpet were handled masterfully by the students

Books

Reviews of recent works by ROSL members



The Anzacs: An inside view of New Zealanders at Gallipoli

Auckland War Memorial Museum (Essays by Damien Fenton and Shaun Higgins. Photography compiled by Shaun Higgins.)

Penguin, 2015

ISBN: 978-0143572336, paperback NZ\$45

The Anzacs is a thoughtful photographic exploration of New Zealand's Gallipoli story, as seen by those who experienced it first-hand. Drawing upon the extensive catalogue of Auckland War Memorial Museum (AM), this absorbing collection of unofficial photographs, taken by soldiers on early pocket cameras, provides an intimate view of life behind the lines and on the battlefield.

The opening essay by military historian Damien Fenton contextualises the images within the chronology of the campaign, while the conclusion, by AM Pictorial Curator, Shaun Higgins, gives an insight into the wider significance of ANZAC photography. From enthusiastic troops waving from the deck of a steam ship, to a simple burial at sea, each image offers a connection to the individuals and moments frozen in time 100 years ago.

Christine Wilde

Of Love and War

Vanessa Alexander (Paul Doherty)

Headline, 2000

ISBN: 978-0755398355, eBook £5.49

This novel, first published in 2000 and recently re-issued as an e-book, is set in 1921. Although the War has been over for three years, the military police are still hunting down suspected culprits and deserters. The arrival of an enigmatic investigator in a small mining town in Co Durham sets off a series of revelations about childhood friends Kitty, Jack and Billy, the horrors of trench warfare, guilt, redemption, friendship and the enduring nature of love. A great read dealing with aspects of WWI that are not widely known.

Margaret Adrian-Vallance

Chairman's welcome

New Chairman **Simon Ward** looks back at an excellent year for ROSL, and ahead to his time in office



FORGING LINKS:
Simon and Raye Ward on the ROSL Terrace

My predecessor, Sir Anthony Figgis, leaves some big shoes to step into. His term of office has been a resounding success and he leaves ROSL in fine fettle. In the last edition of *Overseas*, he wrote with typical modesty of his time in office. Those of us who worked with him during that time know that there was much more to it. His chairmanship was characterised by quiet thoughtfulness and a light, good humoured but sure touch. On behalf of all members worldwide I thank him and Mayella for all they have done for the League. I hope we shall see more of them at Park Place and Princes Street in the years to come.

Before we get too far into 2015, a word about 2014. Wearing my previous hat as Honorary Treasurer, I have written separately about the financial results for the year – they were excellent. For this, recognition and thanks are due to our Director-General Roddy Porter and his dedicated team. We are lucky to have them.

Sir Roger Carrick, chairing our Buildings Committee, has written previously of the plans for improvements to Park Place; it is good to see the first elements of those plans come to fruition. We have more to look forward to in 2015 and beyond. Continuing good operating results underpin these ambitions.

In spite of everyone's best efforts, such a programme of works inevitably involves disruption and calls on the patience of members while the works are carried out. Thank you for that and, as so many have

commented favourably on the refurbished third-floor bedrooms, I am certain that the ends really will justify the means. We look forward to welcoming our overseas members during the summer when the Garden will be in full bloom, the new Terrace complete, and yet more floors of refurbished rooms will be ready.

Raye and I are hugely looking forward to my term as Chairman. I am honoured to be entrusted with the role and am very conscious that I follow in a long line of distinguished holders of the office. We are lucky to have two splendid clubhouses to host the many activities that are on offer to members. Our worldwide charitable programmes in the fields of music, visual arts, literature and humanitarian welfare are the core of what we are about, and I hope to see them continue to prosper in the years ahead.

Our Charter enjoins us to foster social and cultural links worldwide, particularly in the Commonwealth. Raye and I have roots in the UK and Canada, and we continue to live part of our lives in Kenya, so we are instinctively citizens of the Commonwealth. We plan to visit as many of our branches in the UK and worldwide as possible, and to meet as many members as we can to help develop those all important social and cultural links yet further.

Visit www.rosl.org.uk to download a copy of the Annual Report 2014 or email info@rosl.org.uk to request a hard copy. Copies are also available upon request at Reception, Over-Seas House London.

Chairman's lunch

Don't miss the first biannual lunch hosted by the new ROSL Chairman, Simon Ward, on 17 November at Over-Seas House London. Reception drinks in the Willingdon Drawing Room will be followed by a three-course lunch in the Hall of India and Pakistan, with the Black Rod as our Guest of Honour.

Tickets £55; guests £65. Book online at www.rosl.org.uk; or contact +44 (0)20 7016 6906 or membersevents@rosl.org.uk.

Martyn Goff 1923-2015

ROSL was saddened to learn of the death of ROSL Vice President Martyn Goff CBE on 25 March at the age of 91.

Martyn was a towering figure in the world of literature and books, as a novelist, bookseller and administrator for the Booker Prize for 34 years. His association with ROSL began in 1982, when he was Director of the National Book League (now Book Trust), which had recently relocated from Albemarle Street to Wandsworth. Wishing to keep a foothold for book events in central London, he approached ROSL with a proposal to establish a regular series of book events at Over-Seas House, which was welcomed by the then Director-General, John Rumble.

With Martyn's extensive contacts, the list of speakers he invited to talk at ROSL ensured that these events attracted large audiences. Speakers included Beryl Bainbridge, Vikram Seth, Malcolm Bradbury, A S Byatt, Margaret Drabble, P D James and Doris Lessing.

Martyn was a key advisor in devising the Commonwealth Writers Prize, now Commonwealth Writers, launched by the Commonwealth Foundation in association with ROSL in 1987. He was extremely generous with his time and continued to help ROSL find speakers for book events and advise on literary matters well into this century.

Members' benefits

Being a ROSL member entitles you to a range of discounts on theatre and luxury goods close to the London clubhouse, says **Gemma Matthews**

We know that our members like to make the most of all the local amenities when visiting the London clubhouse, whether it's to see an exhibition, take in a show or indulge in a little retail therapy. Many local businesses offer ROSL members discounts on their products and services. Here are just a few of the benefits you can enjoy this summer:

Jermyn Street Theatre

You may not realise it, but Jermyn Street is home to one of London's leading Off West End studio theatres. The eponymously named theatre, located next door to the

Italian restaurant Getti, is an intimate space that seats just 70, and prides itself on staging rediscovered classic works alongside new plays and musicals – to much critical acclaim.

Jermyn Street Theatre would like to invite ROSL members to three summer plays at the special concessionary rate of £17. Stephen Wyatt's *Told Look Younger* (9 June - 4 July) is a provocative comedy about sex, love, friendship and growing old. It is followed by *Lesere* (7 July - 1 August), a taut thriller about heroism, survival and assumed identity in France after WWI. Susie Lindeman's *Letter to Larry* (4-22 August) is based on letters between Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier. To book, call the Box Office on +44 (0)20 7287 2875 and quote 'ROSL'. This special offer is not available online.



Tailor-made for members

Grosvenor Shirts, based on Jermyn Street, prides itself on designing and making luxury men's and women's shirts in the UK and has been granted a Royal Warrant as outfitters to HM The Queen. Shirts are complemented with a beautiful range of accessories, jackets and trousers. For the more discerning customer, why not visit the Made-to-Measure private suite and create your own unique shirt from a choice of more than 400 fabrics. ROSL members receive a 20% discount on full price products in store and online. Quote discount code ROSL20 online and show your membership card in store. Visit www.grosvenorshirts.com or call +44 (0)20 7734 7055.



A cut above

Whether you're in need of a trim or a complete restyle, speak to expert hairdresser Jon Hilliard of Daniel Hersheson. The salon is conveniently located on Conduit Street and Jon offers ROSL members a 10% discount. To book with Jon, call +44 (0)20 7434 1747 and quote 'ROSL'.

DAKS style

The classic British clothing brand DAKS offers ROSL members a 15% discount on full price items from their menswear, womenswear, bags and accessories collections in both the Jermyn Street and New Bond Street stores. To receive this discount, simply show your membership card at the till.



At the clubhouse

Calling green fingered members

Are you a budding Monty Don or Carol Klein? If so, why not volunteer to be part of the ROSL Garden team? As you will read (pages 18-19), there are exciting plans afoot to create a tranquil English town garden at the clubhouse for members and their guests. To help achieve these plans we would welcome gardening volunteers.

Register interest at volunteers@rosl.org.uk.



Working in harmony

Nisha Matthew explains why Song-Ming Ang was, for Camden Arts Centre, the natural choice for Visual Arts Scholar

As a self-confessed musical amateur, Singaporean artist Song-Ming Ang takes an obsessional approach to drawing out the personal relationships we have with music. His work celebrates improvisation and the virtuosity of craftsmanship in the consumption of music.

Having first encountered Ang's work at the Singapore Biennial in 2011, the programming team at Camden Arts Centre (CAC) felt he was a natural choice to put forward for the ROSL/Hospitalfield Visual Arts Scholarship, offering a one-month residency at Hospitalfield followed by the opportunity to develop a

project for CAC's public programme.

Ang decided to curate the event series Do-It-Yourself at the gallery in April. Inviting music critics, artists, independent record store owners and composers to reveal their relationships with music, he attempted to collapse the boundaries between the music 'expert' and 'novice' and, in the process, reveal its resonances in our daily lives, its seductive qualities and our guilty pleasures within it. Alongside film screenings, workshops, performances and listening sessions, Ang presented new works in his Music Manuscript series – an ongoing body of works using

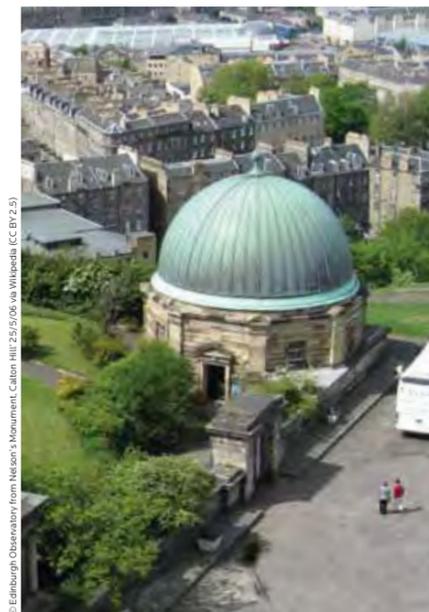
INSPIRED: Stills from Ang's *Something Old, Something New*, based on a ninth-century music stand at Hospitalfield; and (inset) an image from his film *Parts and Labour*

manuscript paper as a basis for creating visual compositions – and a selection of his film works, including *Parts and Labour* (2012) and *Backwards Bach* (2013).

Nisha Matthew is CAC's Public Programme Organiser; www.camdenartscentre.org

Our arts partners revealed

George Harwood Smith explores ROSL ARTS' new exhibition partners for the 2015 Visual Arts Scholarship programme



ROSL ARTS are looking forward to working with exciting artists from South Africa and Canada who have been selected for our 2015 Visual Arts Scholarships. The artists will then pursue public exhibitions/projects in 2016 with our partner organisations: AV Festival, Glasgow International and the Collective Gallery.

Collective Gallery

Established in 1984, Collective Gallery is one of Edinburgh's primary destinations for those interested in contemporary art. Recently relocating to the City Observatory and City Dome on Calton Hill (left), at the centre of Edinburgh's art scene, Collective is working closely with City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh World Heritage to develop public and artist facilities. The gallery nurtures artists at a pivotal stage in their career through a programme of exhibitions, commissions and participatory off-site projects. Visit www.collectivegallery.net for details.

Glasgow International

This biennial festival showcases world-renowned artists in venues across Glasgow, encompassing prestigious cultural institutions, major galleries, and spaces supporting local and international artists, commissioning new work and new collaborations. The 2016 festival will again be led by Director Sarah McCrory. Visit www.glasgowinternational.org for details.

AV Festival

Based in North East England, this biennial festival of art, music and film commissions multi-disciplinary works, enabling emerging and established artists to embark on ambitious projects in a variety of new and challenging contexts. The month-long AV Festival 2016 will take place in around 30 venues across the region, including sites in Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland and Middlesbrough. Visit www.avfestival.co.uk for details.

A blossoming space

Find out what's growing in the ROSL Garden this summer, from a stunning new Terrace and English Garden to match, to fine dining and live music

The Terrace and Garden

One of the most desirable areas of the London clubhouse is the beautiful Garden adjoining Green Park. The idea behind the construction of the Terrace outside the Bar, which opened in the spring, was both to enhance members' enjoyment of the view of the Garden and park, and to further improve the Bar's facilities.

In building it, we had to accept temporary damage to the Garden, but using the Garden as a construction site has had a distinct silver lining: we have been able to plan some developments to the layout which will amplify its beauty. Gone is the wooden fence along Green Park, replaced by what will become a magnificent green beech hedge.

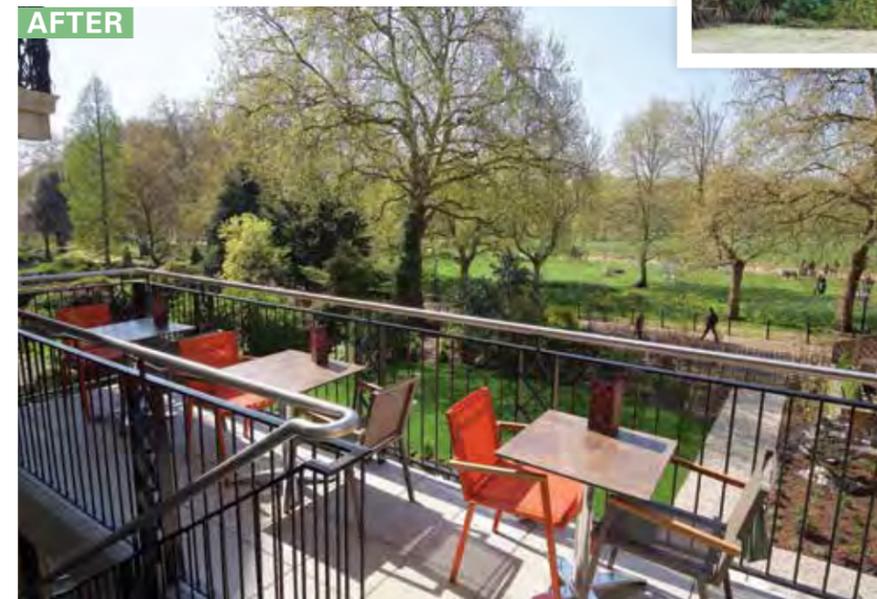
The gate has been moved to opposite the Terrace steps and should, in due course, provide park access for members. The path to the gate will feature dogwood and a three-metre rose arbour. The water feature, commissioned by Robert Newell and sculpted by Stephen McRae to celebrate the millennium, has been surrounded by plants and flowers. The lawn has been re-laid and a judicious blend of screening and planting will set the underside of the Terrace off to good effect.

Our aspiration is to develop a lovely English town garden over the next three years, which, I hope, will be to the delight of our members and the envy of our guests.

Roddy Porter



MAKING IMPROVEMENTS: Artist's impression of the finished Terrace (above); the old stairway down to the ROSL Garden (right); and the sun shines on the completed Terrace (below)



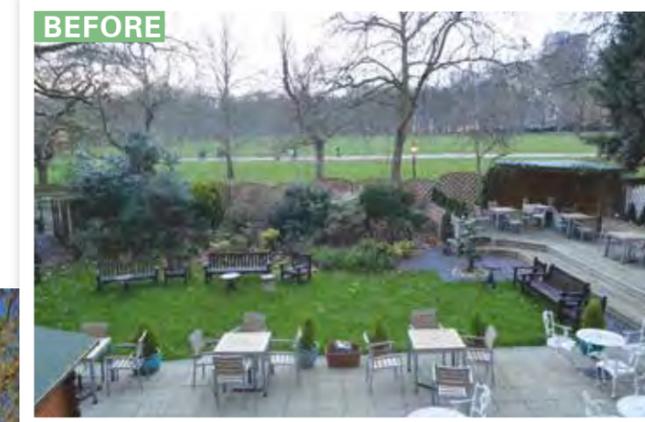
SWEEPING ENTRANCE: Close-up of the new staircase to the Garden

All fresco activities

We have lots of events planned to make the most of our beautiful Garden this summer. Our music nights in the Duke of York Bar continue on the first Thursday of the month. During fine weather, the musicians will sit out on the new Terrace, so you can enjoy a little night music while watching the sun set over Green Park. Those attending our spectacular Waterloo Summer Ball on 27 June, will be treated to a drinks reception in the Garden, as well as a splendid Regency welcome from our master of ceremonies.

There is nothing quite like cooling off with a glass of bubbly on a hot day, so why not join us for a Champagne tasting in the Garden on 30 July? Friends of ROSL ARTS should also keep an eye out for an invitation to the annual Champagne Garden Parties in July and September (see page 32).

As the Garden develops over the next few years, we hope to use this much-loved part of the clubhouse for more open-air Shakespeare, as well as summer celebrations with live music, so keep an eye out for announcements in *Overseas* and on the ROSL website.



TIMELESS BEAUTY: Plans for the finished English town garden (above); the Garden before works began (left); and the first stage of the new landscaping is completed (bottom)



Dining in the Garden

The arrival of the warmer weather means that the ROSL Garden is now open for service. Our chefs have created a new summer menu to delight your taste buds, so as well as favourites such as our Lady Willingdon Afternoon Tea and Garden sandwiches, we have a new range of salads and sharing platters. A choice of these are listed in our menu selection (right) and pair well with our club wines or a glass of Gardet. Garden service times:

Monday to Friday	Drinks service	10am-9pm
	Food service	12-8pm
Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays	Light refreshments and drinks	10am-7pm

Menu

Salads

Tuna Niçoise salad with French beans, quail's egg, chardonnay tomatoes, olives and anchovies (GF) **£13**

Tropical fruit, prawn and crayfish salad, with lime and mango dressing (GF) **£13.75**

Roast heritage beetroots with baby carrots, blue cheese, hazelnuts, lemon and honey dressing (GF, V) **£12.75**

Honey and mustard roast ham with apple, fennel, chicory and pecan salad (GF) **£12.75**

Sharing Platters

Selection of cured meats, salami, chorizo and bresaola with sundried tomatoes, focaccia bread, olives and salad **£10.50 for 1; £21 for 2**

Selection of seafood, with crayfish tails, mackerel paté, salmon fish cakes, crevettes, smoked salmon and anchovy butter **£12 for 1; £23 for 2**

News and views

The latest from the clubhouses in London and Edinburgh



◀ Snapped reading

Chris Dreyer reads *Overseas* in the spring sunshine at his home near Basel, Switzerland; while David Chapman is snapped with the journal in Bjorkliden, Sweden, with the solar eclipse in the background. Do send your 'snapped reading *Overseas*' pictures to editor@rosl.org.uk.



▲ Love and London

On Valentine's Day, members joined Blue Badge Guide Diane for a walking tour exploring the memorable details and sights relating to love and lust in London, including the church where Hugh Grant almost married 'Duck Face' in *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and Smithfield Market, where wives used to be bought and sold alongside livestock. Afterwards, participants enjoyed a romantic afternoon tea in the beautiful Brabourne Room.

▶ Superb section finals

Members were treated to exceptional performances from young musicians from all over the Commonwealth in the ROSL Annual Music Competition (AMC) section finals. As well as choosing the winners of each section, the judges selected gifted soloists Katerina Nazarova *violin* (Aus), Som Howie *clarinet* (Aus), Edward King *cello* (NZ) and Scott Maclsaac *piano* (Can) to perform at the Overseas Awards in Princess Alexandra Hall on 17 March. After a terrific evening of music ranging from Bach to McIntyre, the Lorna Viol Memorial Prize for most outstanding musician from overseas was awarded to Som Howie (far right). He and the other prizewinners will receive their awards at the AMC Final at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on 1 June.



◀ Dinner in the Tower

After an unexpected detour through the set of the latest *Mission Impossible* movie and down the atmospheric cobbled avenues of the fortress, members attending the dinner in the Tower of London were welcomed with a glass of Champagne in the Fusiliers' Museum. A scrumptious three-course meal, including braised beef with prunes and pomegranate, and sticky toffee pudding, was served in the Fusiliers' Mess, after which members had the opportunity to witness the Ceremony of the Keys.

▶ Travel tutorials

Over-Seas House London was a hub of creative activity over the Easter weekend. At the Travel Writing workshop on Good Friday, led by travel journalist Juliet Rix, members had the opportunity to share ideas and work on their own literary endeavours as they explored the nuances of narrative and observation. On the Saturday, members received practical advice and assistance from professional photographer James McCormick, as they honed their camera skills during his Travel Photography workshop.



▶ Music in the Bar

Our music nights in the Duke of York Bar on the first Thursday of the month are growing in popularity, with members enjoying the atmosphere created by skilful world musicians, while catching up with friends.



▲ ▼ Commonwealth Day celebrations

ROSL welcomed members, guests and dignitaries to the London and Edinburgh clubhouses to celebrate Commonwealth Day in March. Members in Edinburgh welcomed Guest of Honour Brigadier David Allfrey, Director of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo (above), to their ever-popular Commonwealth-themed lunch. In London (below), many who had attended the Westminster Abbey service, including Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi, shared their experiences over drinks and canapés in the Hall of India and Pakistan.



▶ British Food Feast

ROSL's exceptional young chefs took centre stage at this unique dining experience in the Restaurant. Following an engaging introduction to the evening's vintages by Francis Flavin from Davy's Wine Merchants, members tucked into a four-course menu, overseen by Head Chef Kevin Casizzi. Craig Webb's gratinated scallop, white crab, fish velouté and pea shoot salad was followed by Dan Seabourne's lamb with beetroot purée, basil gnocchi and spiced red wine sauce. Between courses, representatives from ROSL suppliers Middlesex Meats and Buchanan's Cheesemongers gave short talks about their quality produce.



John Julius Norwich

Members were treated to an engaging lecture by John Julius Norwich and a preview of his latest book, *Cities of the Ancient World*. They then took full advantage of the opportunity to have the book signed, making it a wonderful evening for all involved.



▲ Quiz night

The whirring of the mental cogs was almost audible in the Hall of India and Pakistan as teams of members, guests and even a few brave ROSL staff, battled it out for the top prizes at our new monthly Club Quiz, hosted by experienced quiz masters Marcus and Chris. The winners of the first quiz in April were Pirates of Penzance (Jan Eccleston, Caroline Suttcliffe, Simon Canney and John Koski), who stormed to victory despite having met for the first time that evening. Second place went to Consistently Inconsistent (above). If you know the answers to questions such as 'which country holds the point of land furthest from the open sea?' or 'what four-letter word of middle-eastern origin, a declaration of affirmation, has come into around 1,200 languages essentially unchanged?' and want the opportunity to unseat the reigning champions, join us on 17 June and 15 July. Tickets are available on the door for those staying at the clubhouse.

◀ Fine art and literary legends

Members at the London clubhouse had the opportunity to meet artists Liesel Thomas and Tim Le Breuilly (left) at the private view of 'The Grand Tour' exhibition in March. The work focuses on architectural heritage of the Grand Tour, as documented in the 17th century.



Charity evening ▶

Members and guests enjoyed the Charity Night at the Edinburgh clubhouse on 10 April to raise much-needed funds for the Personnel Recovery Centre, Edinburgh. After drinks in the Princess Alexandra Suite, participants sat down to a three-course meal. With further money raised through a raffle and quiz, bringing the total to £500, it was a very successful evening.



CHANGING PLACES:
YMs enjoy a Moveable Feast



Bright young things

Samantha Pickett meets friends old and new at ROSL's successful Younger Members Moveable Feast

Following several months of planning, we held our first Younger Members Moveable Feast in the London clubhouse's beautiful Rutland Room on 27 February. This very sociable occasion is akin to a dinner version of musical chairs, with an equal number of male and female guests, and seats rearranged with every course. We tucked into some delicious food, including hot smoked salmon with a beetroot and pea shoot salad, and lamb with berry compote. It was lovely to see new friendships being made and to meet a number of new members at their first event at the club. The nature of this event makes it ideal for those who don't yet know any of their fellow YMs. We are currently planning our next YM Moveable Feast for 5 November – put the date in your diary if you'd like to make some new acquaintances and sample one of ROSL's mouthwatering banqueting menus.

AN INTIMATE PERFORMANCE

ROSL YMs were treated to a private masterclass in February by Annual Music Competition winner Peter Foggitt, who gave an insight into the competition, as well as an engaging demonstration of musical excellence on ROSL's Steinway Grand Piano.



Celebrations and congratulations

As Namibia celebrates 25 years of independence, the new Valentine Fund extends educational opportunities for young people, reports **Margaret Adrian-Vallance**

On 21 March, Namibia celebrated its 25th anniversary of independence from South Africa with a variety of events at home and abroad. Celebrations included a vibrant reception in London with fabulous food, music and a fashion show hosted by the Namibian High Commissioner, Steve Katjivanjo, and his wife.

This date also saw new government appointments in Namibia, including that of ROSL member Peter Katjavivi as Speaker of the National Assembly. Along with Clara Bohitile, Dick Chamberlain and the late Dr Moses Tjitendero, Professor Katjavivi (former University of Namibia Vice Chancellor and Chief Whip) was instrumental in the development of the ROSL-Namibia project to help marginalised youngsters gain an education.

This need continues today in the remote parts of the Kalahari and Himba regions. Due to a generous donation by Dr Donald



Valentine, who sadly died last year, 13 students from these areas continue to receive ROSL bursaries to study education at the University of Namibia. Most of them want to return to their homelands as teachers.

The Valentine Fund is also supporting bush schools in the northern Kalahari and work across the border in Botswana's Kalahari. Although restricted to our work in Namibia and Botswana, the fund could make it possible to channel income from other sources to ROSL



SUCCESS: Ellie Velskoen, one of ROSL's first bursary recipients, now teaches in Mokaleng (left); and a choir in Otjimbingwe

humanitarian projects in other countries. These include modest funding for Aids orphans in Zambia and tertiary education for ROSL bursary recipients in Kenya.

Beatrice and Antony, from Kenya's Gilgil area, are two of the best communicators of any long-distance project. It is great to hear their news – from football clubs, school grades, teacher strikes, worship and harvests, to their great appreciation of the ROSL support that they say has changed their lives.

YOUR SPECIAL DAY *in the heart of Mayfair*

The Royal Over-Seas League is an elegant venue in central London offering a unique and tranquil setting for your celebration.

Licensed to hold civil wedding ceremonies we offer a complete and exemplary service for 20 to 200 guests.

All Royal Over-Seas League members and friends receive a **10% discount** on the food and drink package price.

Please contact roslweddings@graysonsrestaurants.com or by telephone on 0207 7629 0406 to arrange a show round with our experienced events team

Branches: what's on?

Details of forthcoming events

ROSL branches provide an opportunity for members in many parts of the world to enjoy a range of social events close to home. To find out more about getting involved, simply contact your local representative.

Australia

Tuesday 2 June
South Australia lunch
Public Schools Club, Adelaide; 12pm
Two-course lunch with talk about South Australia's transition from British colony to multicultural society. Guests welcome. Email rosl.sa@mac.com to attend. \$25.

Tuesday 4 August
South Australia lunch
Public Schools Club, Adelaide; 12pm
Author Nigel Starck discusses his latest book, *The First Celebrity: Anthony Trollope's Australasian odyssey*, at this two-course lunch. Guests welcome. Email rosl.sa@mac.com to attend. \$25.

Saturday 8 August
ROSL WA/Royal Schools Music Club singing competition
Callaway Music Auditorium, School of Music, UWA; 2.30pm
Annual competition with three prizes provided by the WA Branch. See page 14 for details of the branch's support of talented young musicians. *Guests welcome. Free.*

Thursday 22 October
South Australia annual dinner
Naval, Army & Airforce Club, Adelaide; 6.30pm
With Guest of Honour Dr John Bannon AO, former Premier of South Australia. Email rosl.sa@mac.com to register your interest.

New Zealand

New Zealand Branch functions are listed at www.roslnz.org.nz or contact royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details of your local branch activities.

Wednesday 3 June, 1 July, 5 August
Invercargill Branch meetings
Southland Club; 10am
Monthly talks including 'Christmas in Bavaria' (June) and 'Fire Safety' (July). All are welcome. Email royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details.

Wednesday 10 June
Christchurch Branch tea
Holly Lea Retirement Village; 10am
With a talk by Michelle Sharp. All members and friends welcome. Email royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details.

Wednesday 8 July
Christchurch Branch lunch
Holly Lea Retirement Village; 12pm
All are welcome. Email royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details.

Annual London clubhouse visits

Cheltenham Branch
Friday 31 July – Monday 3 August
Enjoy a weekend at Over-Seas House, including breakfast and dinner. Cheltenham Branch members only. £325-£335pp. For details call Kathleen Northage on +44 (0)1242 515540.

Scottish Members
Friday 7 – Monday 10 August
Annual trip to the London clubhouse for Edinburgh and Glasgow Branch members. Book by 30 June. £325-£335pp. Includes dinner and continental breakfast.

ROSL West
Friday 4 – Monday 7 September
Long weekend at the London clubhouse with the opportunity to see *The Play that Goes Wrong*, visit the Dulwich Picture Gallery, Spencer House and the Magic Circle Museum, and enjoy a three-course lunch cruise with live jazz on the River Thames. For Bath, Bournemouth, Exeter and Taunton Branch members only. £385/£395. Includes half-board at Over-Seas House and lunch cruise on the Sunday; excludes outings and travel to/from London.

MEETING OF MINDS: (L-r)
Sylvia Howes, ROSL Central Council member Professor Meryll Dean, Angela Alderman, Lynne Fougere, Gerald Dufty and Marian Dale at the West Cornwall Branch Annual Lunch in March (above); and (right) Edinburgh Branch Chairman Mae Barr with speaker John Ramsay at the February coffee morning

Wednesday 12 August
Christchurch musical soiree
Holly Lea Retirement Village; 2pm
All members and friends welcome. Email royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details.

Friday 19 June, 17 July, 21 August
Timaru Branch monthly meetings
Bay Lounge; 10am
All members and friends welcome. Email royalo-s@xtra.co.nz for details.



 **Canada**
August
British Columbia Chapter
Event details will be sent to branch members. Contact evmurray@telus.net to register interest or to join the mailing list.

 **Switzerland**
Friday 19 June
Annual dinner
Ecole Hôtelière, Lausanne; 6pm
Dinner attended by Director-General Roddy Porter, with an optional tour of the school. Guests welcome. CHF 80; ROSL members CHF 70; Under 35s CHF 50. Call +334 5040 6631 to attend.

 **UK**
Bath
Wednesday 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September
Monthly coffee morning
Pratt's Hotel, South Parade, BA2 4AB; 10.30am
Meet-up every second Wednesday of the month. Guests welcome. Pay for own refreshments.

Thursday 22 October
Autumn lunch
Bath & County Club, Queen's Parade; 11.30am
Talk on the Napoleonic Wars and the Battle of Waterloo with two-course lunch and coffee. Guests welcome. Email rosl.west@gmail.com to register interest.



CELEBRATION: (L-r) Branch Secretary Michael Kent, President David Wotton, Audrey Kent and Graham Beckett at the South Australia Branch Annual Commonwealth Day Reception

Bournemouth
Thursday 4, 11, 25 June, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July, 6, 13, 20, 27 August
Weekly coffee morning
Marriott Highcliff Hotel; 10.30am
These regular meet-ups are an important part of the branch's calendar. All members and guests welcome. £3.

Wednesday 17 June
The Queen's birthday lunch
Marriott Highcliff Hotel; 12.30pm
Two-course lunch and coffee with ROSL's new Chairman Simon Ward and Raye Ward. £24.

Saturday 4 July
Summer Garden Party
50 Chessell Avenue, Bournemouth; 12.30pm
Join fellow members for wine and a delicious finger buffet. £10.

Cheltenham
Wednesday 17 June
Summer lunch
Storyteller Restaurant, 11 North Place, GL50 4DW; 12pm
Join fellow ROSL members and guests. Two courses £9.95; three courses £12.50.

Friday 31 July – Monday 3 August
Cheltenham Branch London visit
See box (opposite) for details.

Wednesday 16 September
'Nepal'
Church House, Grafton Road; 2.30pm
Illustrated talk exploring the enigmatic country of Nepal. £2.

Edinburgh
Saturday 6 June
'Music therapy'
Over-Seas House Edinburgh; 10am
Coffee morning with talk. Guests welcome. £3.

Friday 7 – Monday 10 August
Scottish Members' London visit
See box (opposite) for details.

Exeter
Saturday 18 July
Budleigh Festival concert and lunch
Temple Methodist Church Budleigh Salterton; 12pm
Performance by 2014 ROSL/Pettman scholars Quattro Cello Quartet, followed by lunch with the musicians at Slice of Lyme restaurant. Guests welcome to lunch. *Limited places so book early. Concert free; price for two-course lunch with coffee tba.*

Friday 25 September
Lecture and lunch
City Gate Hotel, EX4 3RB; 11.30am
One-course lunch followed by a talk by Gemma Matthews, ROSL Director of Marketing. All members, guests and those interested in joining are welcome. £13.

Glasgow
Friday 5 June
AGM
The Western Club, Glasgow, 2pm
Formal AGM followed by refreshments. Branch members only. Call +44 (0)141 884 6342 for further details. *Free.*

Friday 7 – Monday 10 August
Scottish Members' London visit
See box (opposite) for details.

New Zealand WWI commemorations

Thursday 13 August
Auckland Branch
Royal NZ Yacht Squadron; 5pm
Shaun Higgins, Pictorial Curator at Auckland War Memorial Museum, speaks about his involvement in compiling *The Anzacs: An inside view of New Zealanders at Gallipoli* (see page 14 for a review, and page 6 for an overview of the museum's fascinating commemorative programme).

Wednesday 4 November
Invercargill Branch
Southland Club; 10am
Special meeting to mark the centenary of the First World War. Guests welcome.

Wednesday 11 November
Christchurch Branch
Holly Lea Retirement Village; 10am
Talk by John Gray CBE, former Town Clerk of Christchurch City Council, about New Zealand's role on the Western Front.

Meet ROSL NZ

Director of ROSL NZ, Lyn Milne has been a ROSL member for more than 20 years.

'ROSL NZ was founded in 1913 when Sir Evelyn Wrench visited the country while on a membership drive with his sister. The branches grew after the Second World War, as many soldiers who attended events at Over-Seas House while recuperating in London wanted to continue their links with ROSL at home.

I became Director of ROSL NZ on my return to New Zealand in 1995, having worked in ROSL's PR department from 1977 to 1982. I enjoy visiting our branches and meeting long-standing members in Invercargill, Palmerston North, Oamaru, Timaru and Christchurch, and have also introduced our Director-Generals and Chairmen to members in New Zealand.

Although many members are prolific travellers, some can no longer make the journey to the clubhouses. Hearing about what is happening in the UK brings back memories and sometimes inspires them to take another trip. My biggest thrill is signing up a new member and knowing that it will open so many doors to them and make travelling so much more enjoyable.

Our most popular branch events range from gala evenings for our alumni NZ musicians at Government House to intimate house concerts. It is a great honour to have been involved with the Pettman/ROSL ARTS Scholarship for 10 years, sending the winners to the UK for a five-week cultural immersion, including participation in ROSL's Edinburgh Fringe Festival concert series. They all return inspired and hugely motivated.'

SMOOTH OPERATORS:
(L-r) Lyn Milne with the new Christchurch Branch Patron Ruth Harwood, and Treasurer and Honorary Life Member Angela Parks



Taunton

Wednesday 3 June
Chairman's fundraiser and
The Queen's birthday lunch
 Oake Manor Golf Club, TA4 1BA;
 12pm

Two-course lunch and raffle to raise money for the Taunton Branch's 2015/16 UK charity. £18.50. Includes lunch and charitable donation.

Wednesday 10, 17, 24 June
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 July
5, 12, 19, 26 August
Weekly coffee morning
 Upstairs, Miles at Riverside;
 10.30am

Friendly, informal gathering open to members, guests and those interested in joining, so come along and introduce yourself. Purchase your own refreshments then find the group upstairs.

West Cornwall

No summer events; programme resumes in autumn.

Bournemouth connections

The Bournemouth Branch welcomed Gill Prior, Chair of the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Branch of the English Speaking Union (ROSL's sister organisation, also founded by Sir Evelyn Wrench) and her husband Victor, to their AGM and lunch on 8 April. The branch has also been in contact with the Tasmania Branch with a view to forming closer links between the two ROSL groups.

West Sussex

Wednesday 3 June
The Queen's birthday lunch
 Windsor Hotel, Worthing; 12.30 for 1pm
 Celebratory lunch with Guest of Honour Sir Anthony Figgis.
 For details or to register interest, call +44 (0)1444 458853.

Top 10 London and Edinburgh**STAND**

Play exploring real-life stories of courage and conscience from ordinary people who stood up for something, or someone, they believed in. **4-6 June.** Tickets £16. traverse.co.uk/whats-on

**Indigenous Australia: Enduring civilisation**

At the British Museum, discover the remarkable story of one of the world's oldest continuing cultures. **Until 2 August.** Tickets £10. www.britishmuseum.org

**Waiting for Godot**

Richard Roxburgh and Hugo Weaving star in the Sydney Theatre Company's production of Samuel Beckett's absurdist masterpiece. **4-13 June.** Tickets £16-50. www.barbican.org.uk/theatre

Remembering Gallipoli

One hundred years on, this poignant exhibition at King's College London provides an insight into the military struggle that took so many lives. **Until 10 June.** Free. www.kcl.ac.uk/library/eventrecords/2015/gallipoli.aspx

Fighting History

Tate Britain exhibition focusing on the conflict, martyrdom and catastrophe found in history painting from the 18th century to the present day. **9 June - 13 September.** Tickets £10.90. www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/exhibition/fighting-history

**Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival**

Scotland's biggest jazz festival; 10 days of concerts featuring all jazz styles in venues throughout the capital. **17-26 July.** Prices vary. www.edinburghjazzfestival.com

**Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

Performers from all over the world take part in this annual celebration at Edinburgh Castle. **7-29 August.** Tickets £25-£63. www.edintattoo.co.uk

**Edinburgh International Book Festival**

The world's largest book festival brings together leading authors and readers for a variety of inspirational events. **15-31 August.** Prices vary. www.edbookfest.co.uk/

Remembering the Great War

The Scottish National Portrait Gallery explores the key role of Scotland and the Scottish people in WWI. **Until 29 May 2016.** Free. www.nationalgalleries.org

**An enchanting experience**

Roderick Lakin meets Monika Saunders, Founder, Artistic Director and driving force behind Music at Woodhouse

Inspired by Glyndebourne, country house opera has become increasingly popular in the past 30 years. Garsington, Grange Park, Longborough and Iford, to name only a few, offer high-quality opera productions in glorious settings, enhanced by enticing possibilities for al fresco dining and picnicking. Woodhouse Opera Festival provides an intimate and quirky addition to the UK summer opera calendar.

Woodhouse Copse was built in 1925 on the outskirts of the village of Holmbury St Mary, near Dorking, by architect Oliver Hill, a protégé of Edwin Lutyens. The Arts and Crafts style cottage orné is set within landscaped gardens, jointly created by Hill and Gertrude Jekyll.

With a passion for music and the visual arts, Monika Saunders, the current owner, began to transform Woodhouse Copse into a haven for the arts after her children grew up and left home. First she converted the large indoor swimming pool, a handsome addition to the original property, into a concert hall. Donning a hard hat, she constructed a wooden floor over the empty pool with the help of a local builder. The result is a warm acoustic, understated elegance, and an intimate ambience for chamber music and small-scale operas.

From 2000, Monika has presented a year-round series of masterclasses and concerts in the concert hall. In 2005, she took the bold step of launching a summer opera festival with a production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* in a newly created amphitheatre, complete with orchestra pit, sited next to the lake in a woodland clearing.

Two outdoor operas are now presented in September each year. Past successes include *The Magic Flute*, *Così fan tutte*, *Acis and*

Galatea, *Carmen* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* in productions making the most of the magical setting. In May, baroque opera is presented in the concert hall: last year *Les Indes Galantes* and this year *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*.

Most operas are directed by Monika and she also oversees set and costume design to create an integrated vision. Working within a tiny budget, her guiding principle is 'necessity is the mother of invention'. Her priority is fidelity to the composer and librettist's intentions: to work from music and character outwards rather than imposing a directorial concept, seeking to make the works resonate with a modern audience, and to create a 'transformative and enchanting total experience'.

Musical standards for concerts and operas are consistently high. Performers are hand-picked by Monika and her Musical Director, the young Brazilian conductor Marcio da Silva, from young musicians emerging from conservatoires in the UK and Europe. Several past ROSL prizewinners have appeared at Woodhouse, including the Busch Ensemble and soprano Anna Rajah.

The Opera Festival and concert series have built up a loyal following, attracting a high level of return visitors. The indefatigable Monika greets all patrons, who are welcomed as if to a house party. Performances begin at 4pm and there is the traditional supper interval. Patrons can bring their own refreshments and set up picnic tables by the lake, or buy champagne, wine, platters of food and pre-ordered picnic hampers from hospitality tents with tables and seating. In case of inclement weather, performances are re-located to the concert hall.

This year's outdoor operas are Rossini's take on the Cinderella myth, *La Cenerentola*, and Verdi's *Falstaff*. The latter will suit the setting perfectly, with the lake serving as The Thames, and the woodland backdrop metamorphosing into Verdi's evocation of Windsor Forest.

Tickets £50; offer for both *La Cenerentola* (5-6 September) and *Falstaff* (12-13 September) £90; students and children half price. See www.woodhousesounds.com or contact woodhousemusic@icloud.com or +44 (0)1917 778010 for bookings and details.

MAGICAL SETTING:

Last year's open-air production of *The Magic Flute* (above and below)

INSIGHTS:

Roderick with Monika at Over-Seas House London (above inset)

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Calendar highlights

Our choice of events for members, including stays and activities at the clubhouse, exclusive day-trips and inspiring tours

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Battlefield Tour to Gallipoli 23-28 May 2016

The nationhood of both Australia and New Zealand were forged in the nine-month Gallipoli campaign. Of 188,000 Allied casualties, more than 35,500 were from the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC). Operations in the Dardanelles began with a naval bombardment followed, in March 1915, by an unsuccessful attempt by naval forces to reach Istanbul by forcing the Narrows. Under the command of General Sir Ian Hamilton, British, French and ANZAC forces landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April. Rapid advance was thwarted by the Turkish defence and a second landing at Suvla in August made little progress. The campaign stagnated into an agony of thirst, flies, shelling and disease; only the evacuation was a success.

Our tour will visit the Anzac Cove landing beaches and the inland battlefields of Lone Pine and the Nek. At Cape Helles we will see V and W beaches and the British memorial, and tour the landing areas by boat to gain an

insight into the difficulties of the terrain from the perspective of the assaulting troops. Finally we will explore the Suvla Bay landings and the struggle for the heights of Sari Bair by ANZAC and Gurkha forces. The rugged and haunting peninsula, with its many cemeteries and memorials, remains a moving testament to the soldiers and events of a century ago.

£1,099pp. Single supplement £115.
Land-only reduction £260 (excludes flights/taxes/transfers). Travel for non-UK residents to/from Istanbul can be arranged as part of your booking. Includes 5 nights 4-star B&B accommodation; all meals except on day 1; travel in Turkey by air-conditioned coach; museum entry; and specialist Battlefield Guide and Tour Manager throughout. This tour is expected to be popular, so book early to avoid disappointment. Contact +44 (0)20 7873 5000 or sales@coxandkings.co.uk for booking inquiries. For club-related queries, contact Sara at ROSL on membersevents@rosl.org.uk. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Booking deadline 15 December 2015.

YMs IN SCOTLAND

YM Croquet and Champagne in Edinburgh

Thursday 23 July, 6pm

It's the quintessentially British game that goes extremely well with a glass of bubbly; the first outdoor sport to allow men and women to play on an equal footing; the craze that created Wimbledon's famous

All England Lawn Club: we are, of course, speaking of croquet!

The Scottish Clubs Group revisits last year's popular summer event, inviting Younger Members from different Scottish clubs to a glamorous night of sporting. Set in the venerable Meadows Croquet Club, and taking full advantage of the club's expertise, exclusive use of its equipment, expert tuition and scoring, the evening will see Younger Members and their guests get to grips with the game, before spending the second half of the evening engaging in a small but very real competition.

After the croquet, the group will head to the ROSL clubhouse to continue the evening in style within the elegant surroundings of the Observation Bar. Tickets £22.50. Includes croquet equipment and tuition, prosecco and snacks at the Meadows Croquet Club (later in the night drinks can be bought from the ROSL bar). To book, contact +44 (0)20 7016 6906 or membersevents@rosl.org.uk.

Club trips and tours 2015

Planning the rest of your 2015 calendar? Here are the remaining ROSL tours and trips for the year. Are you in for an arty August with our creative escape at the clubhouse, or an introduction to the cultural delights of Amsterdam? Perhaps your tastes lie more with a tour of the fine wines, cellars and vineyards of Burgundy? Or maybe this is the year that you book yourself a cosy clubhouse Christmas. Whatever takes your fancy, these trips are worth investigating:

15-16 August Art Weekend
23-27 September Burgundy Wine Tour
16-21 November Cultural Highlights of Amsterdam
24-26 December Christmas at the London clubhouse

For more information about our exciting packages, visit www.rosl.org.uk/events or contact Members Events on +44 (0)20 7016 6906 or membersevents@rosl.org.

CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

Monthly music nights in the Bar

Thursdays 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 6.30pm onwards

With an exciting array of free performances, the Duke of York Bar is the place to be every first Thursday of the month. We kick off the summer months with the sunny Niteblues Steel Band. Originally from Antigua, bandleader Harry Hughes founded one of the UK's very first steel bands, The Merrymakers, and is a familiar figure in the House of Lords. July and August see



further artists mastering music and instruments from around the world to round off a truly summery set of live performances. Free.

TOP PICK

Weekend of the Waterloo Summer Ball

Saturday 27 June

It's not long now until the club community event of the year: our fantastic Summer Ball. Reigniting a long-standing tradition of dinner dances, ROSL is putting on a sensational ball to go hand in hand with the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo. Whether you book a table for a group or come by yourself, enjoy dancing or prefer spectating, are a lifelong member or a Younger Member, the ball will provide an enjoyable evening for all.

The Regency-themed bash echoes dances of the sort immortalised by Jane Austen and will feature plenty of enchanting historical touches. After a delectable dinner, an expert caller will charm guests onto the floor with a fun introduction to the period's most famous moves. Guests can also enjoy other entertainment, including ROSL ARTS music, beautiful clubhouse rooms recreated in their original Regency style and a time-travel makeover by a dress-historian. The Duke of Wellington himself may even make an appearance!

We have arranged for special offers on accommodation, which will enable you to retire from the ball in style. Why not treat yourself to a clubhouse stay with an enchanting evening and a relaxed morning on the Terrace the following day? Contact Reservations for special rates on reservations@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217. For ball inquiries or for further details, contact membersevents@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7016 6906.



FESTIVAL FOCUS

Music and MORE @ 100 Princes Street



FRINGE HIGHLIGHTS:
John Paul Muir performs at ROSL

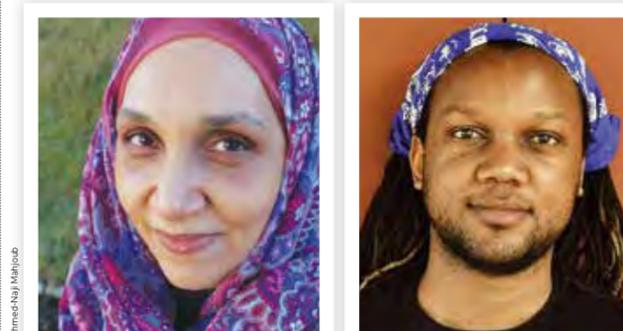
ROSL ARTS moves up a gear for its 16th award-winning Edinburgh Festival Fringe series at 100 Princes Street, returning with a significantly expanded and diversified series of events for 2015. Moving from 30 concerts in two weeks to 50 events spread over the whole three-week festival, ROSL ARTS will continue with its best-selling classical music brand leaders, such as Bach or Beethoven for Breakfast, Chopin after Lunch and Mozart at Teatime. New programming strands for 2015 include regular late-night jazz in the restaurant in the third week, classic Gershwin and Cole Porter, a children's music show, and book events. Caine Prize Winner Leila Aboulela and shortlisted author Tendai Huchu will read from their new novels in the Robert Louis Stevenson Room.

Consistent quality is assured as we continue to focus on showcasing ROSL ARTS prizewinning musicians, whatever the musical genre. Praise from the local press has never been more deserved:

'The best place to spot future talent is undoubtedly the Royal Over-Seas League music series.' *The Herald*

'The ROSL's 60-year old record for supporting young artists bears enormous fruit... it attracts the cream of the young musical crop.' *The Scotsman*

BOOK EVENTS: Caine Prize 2000 winner Leila Aboulela (left); and 2014 finalist Tendai Huchu (right)



ROSL CALENDAR

JUNE

Until Friday 3 July

Leo du Feu watercolours

Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, daily

Scottish artist Leo du Feu presents watercolours including works from his ROSL ARTS scholarship trip to Canada in 2014. Free.

Monday 1 June

ROSL Annual Music Competition Final 2015

Queen Elizabeth Hall,

Southbank Centre, 7pm

Section Final winners Charlotte Ashton, Michael Buchanan, Soraya Mafi, Juliana Myslov and Alexander Soares compete for the Gold Medal and First Prize of £10,000. The distinguished panel of judges, chaired by Gavin Henderson CBE, will make their decision while prizewinning ensembles, the Jackson Beilby Duo and the Ferio Saxophone

Quartet, perform. Tickets £15; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12. Special price only available from ROSL ARTS.



Thursday 4 June

First Thursdays drinks



Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm

Monthly social. We want all our Younger Members to feel at home in our clubhouses and to use them as spaces to relax, bring friends, engage in culture and form new connections. With

an exciting array of free musical performances, the Duke of York Bar is the place to be every first Thursday of the month. Free. Guests welcome.

Monday 8 June

Gala opera evening

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 6.30pm

Annual concert by students of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Opera School.

Tickets £35. Includes cocktail reception, two-course dinner and wine.

Monday 8 June

Waterloo: The battle and the historians



Over-Seas House London, 7-8.30pm

Military historian Michael Orr analyses the historical debate surrounding the turning points in the battle at this Discussion Group talk. Free.

Tuesday 9 June

Waterloo Dinner

Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, 7pm

Join the London Group to mark the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo, with Guest of Honour and speaker Lady Jane Wellesley, sister of the ninth Duke of Wellington.

Tickets £50; LG members £45. Apply to Celia Goh, London Group, c/o Porters' Desk, Over-Seas House London, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope, and noting dietary requirements and seating requests. For details, call Celia on +44 (0)20 8567 1525.

Wednesday 10 June

Visit to Chelsea Physic Garden



66 Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HS, 10.45am

An hour-long guided tour of London's oldest botanic garden. Founded in 1673 for the study of medicinal and useful plants, it includes more than 5,000 species. An optional two-course lunch in the garden's acclaimed Tangerine Dream café follows. Tickets £14; LG members £12. Additional £12.50 for lunch.

Monday 15 June

YM Garter Day

Windsor Castle, 12pm

A unique opportunity for YMs to observe the procession of the Order of the Garter. Bookings have now closed.

Monday 15 June

'Gabriele Münter and Wassily Kandinsky' with Eveline Eaton

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 3pm

In association with the Art Fund.

Münter was Kandinsky's pupil at the Phalanx School in Munich. Along with Franz Marc and August Macke, they established the Blaue Reiter movement. This lecture explores the artists' turbulent relationship and individual styles.

Tickets £14. Includes tea and coffee on arrival. To book, visit www.artfund.org/London or call +44 (0)844 415 4151.

Tuesday 16 June

Edinburgh film night

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm

A French, subtitled romantic comedy about a shy girl living in Paris. Includes coffee, sweets and ice-cream.

Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50

Tuesday 16 June

Old Europe and New Asia: Strategies and responses

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 6.30pm

Former Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General Krishnan Srinivasan and Founder-Director of the European Centre for International Political Economy Fredrik Erixon discuss the main themes of their latest book, *Europe in Emerging Asia*. See box, opposite, for details. Price tba.

Wimbledon viewing room

Monday 22 June - Sunday 5 July

Park Room, Over-Seas House London, daily

The world of tennis descends on Wimbledon every summer for two weeks of sport, strawberries and cream, as well as lunch and snack options in the Brabourne Room.

Wimbledon is one of four annual Grand Slam tennis tournaments held around the world (and arguably the best).

ROSL continues to broadcast full coverage of the tournament in the Park Room,



Wednesday 17 June

Club quiz

Over-Seas House London, 7.30pm

Test your mental mettle in ROSL's new regular quiz night. Our experienced quiz masters have a reputation for running the hardest pub quiz in the UK and will be putting your team through its paces. The quiz will finish no later than 9.30pm, with opportunities to order food. Max team size is six people; individuals will be placed in teams.

Tickets £5. Includes glass of wine on arrival. Guests welcome.

Monday 22 June

Monday Platform: Solem String Quartet and Block 4

Wigmore Hall, 7.30pm

Prepare to be amazed by Block 4 recorder quartet with their imaginative mix of early and contemporary music. Fellow ROSL Annual Music Competition 2014 ensemble prizewinners, the dynamic Solem Quartet, will frame the programme with works by Haydn and Mendelssohn.

Tickets £10-18 from www.wigmore-hall.org.uk; Friends of ROSL ARTS £12, available only from ROSL ARTS. Includes post-concert wine reception for Friends only.

Tuesday 23 June

'Auguste Rodin and Camille Claudel' with Patrick Bade

Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 3pm

In association with the Art Fund. It was Camille Claudel's tragedy to live in the shadow of two powerful men: her lover Auguste Rodin and her brother, the author Paul Claudel. Much of her work would be subsumed into Rodin's and he continued to support her creative aspirations after their relationship ended. Sadly, she spent the last 30 years of her life in a psychiatric institution. Patrick Bade will tell the story of Claudel's passionate and sometimes tortured relationship with Rodin and attempt to show what they contributed to each other's art. Tickets £14. Includes tea and coffee on arrival. To book, visit www.artfund.org/London or call +44(0)844 415 4151.

Saturday 27 June

Waterloo Summer Ball



Over-Seas House London, 6pm

Taking inspiration from our beautiful Georgian clubhouse, our Regency-themed ball continues the ROSL custom of uniting our community for an evening of music, food and dancing. After a drinks reception in the Garden and a splendid three-course meal, an expert caller will lead a fun introduction to the period's most famous dance moves, with more entertainment during the evening. Tickets £110; table for 10 people £990. Guests welcome. Includes reception drinks and three-course dinner with wine.

JULY

Until Friday 3 July

Leo du Feu watercolours

Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, daily

See June listing for details. Free.

Wednesday 1 July

Ashley Wass piano recital



Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm

In association with the Medical Music Society of London. The winner of the 1995 ROSL Annual Music Competition performs works by Chopin, Barber and Liszt. Tickets £28; Friends of ROSL ARTS £22. Tickets plus two-course buffet £56; Friends of ROSL ARTS £48. All tickets include wine, tea and coffee.

Old Asia and New Europe: Strategies, challenges and responses

Over-Seas House London, Tuesday 16 June, 6.30pm



In his latest book, *Europe in Emerging Asia*, the former Indian Foreign Secretary and Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General, Krishnan Srinivasan, provides a candid examination of the economic, cultural and strategic handicaps to closer engagement between Europe and emerging Asia. At a special event at Over-Seas House London, Mr Srinivasan, a ROSL member for 20

years, will discuss the main themes of the book along with co-author Fredrik Erixon, Founder-Director of the European Centre for International Political Economy; Emeritus Professor of International Relations James Mayall; and former British ambassadors Dame Veronica Sutherland and Sir Roger Hervey.

According to Srinivasan, 'Europe is not only the Past; emerging Asia is not the sum total of the Future; and both need to cooperate to ensure Europe's future and enable Asia to fulfil its promise.' The common history shared by the two continents stretches back several centuries and encompasses trade, culture, legend, myth, literature, imperialism and migration. Expectations of a dynamic 'New' Asia, with high economic growth, seem to contrast with a well-respected, technologically and culturally rich 'Old' Europe, struggling with problems of unity and identity, and a sluggish economy. 'Along with Fredrik Erixon, we have sought to identify the opportunities for productive interaction between Europe and emerging Asia, and the issues that impede this relationship,' he explains.

Among the book's contributors are diplomats, intellectuals, politicians and academics closely connected with public policy, who have negotiated for, or with, the European Union. The book is therefore a unique combination of personal experience and academic input, tracing a future road-map for the common benefit of Europe, Asia and the wider world community. Price tba. This event is organised by the publishers Rowman & Littlefield International. All are welcome.



QUICK BOOKING INFORMATION

For full booking and contact details, see page 34

ROSL ARTS

+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x219;
rosllarts@rosl.org.uk

ROSL Scotland

+44 (0)131 225 1501;
www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk

Members' Events

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
+44 (0)20 7016 6906;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

London Group

Clive Carpenter; clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com.
For outside visits: Maureen Howley;
howleymaureen@hotmail.com

Younger Members

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

Discussion Group

No advanced booking required.
Free, drop-in events.

Thursday 2 July

First Thursdays drinks

Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm

Monthly Younger Members drinks. With the Caine Prize for African Writing taking place the same day, the clubhouse will be full of vibrant activity. Free.

Thursday 2 July

2015 Caine Prize for African Writing

**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

The five shortlisted writers will read from their work and take part in a short Q&A. Founded in 2000, this important £10,000 literary award supports the richness and range of current African writing. Tickets £7; Friends of ROSL ARTS £5. Includes a glass of wine on arrival plus wine and canapés after the readings.

Tuesday 7 July

Edinburgh film night

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm

Epic adventure based on the life of T E Lawrence and his time in the Middle East. Includes coffee, sweets and ice-cream. Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50.

Wednesday 8 July – Friday 25 September

Louise Truslow watercolours

Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, daily

In association with the Anglo-Thai Society. Exhibition of paintings and glassworks by ROSL Thailand Visual Arts Consultant Louise Truslow. To attend the Private View on Tuesday 7 July, 6-8pm, contact +44(0)20 7408 0214 x219 or gharwoodsmith@rosl.org.uk. Free.

Wednesday 8 July

Concert for Songbound Sri Lanka

**Princess Alexandra Hall, Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

Mandhira de Saram violin, Ashan Pillai viola, Rohan de Saram cello and Kausikan Rajeshkumar piano, ROSL prizewinning musicians from the 1950s to the present day, come together for this fundraising concert. The programme includes Mozart's *G Minor Piano Quartet*, plus solos and duos by Fauré, Kodaly, Rachmaninov and Schumann.

Established in 2012, Songbound is an outreach initiative that brings the transformative power of music to some of the most disadvantaged children in India and Sri Lanka. In cooperation with schools and local partners, it sets up and sustains children's choirs, which rehearse for performances in a safe environment. www.songbound.com Tickets £20; Friends of ROSL ARTS £15; plus optional donation. Includes sparkling wine on arrival and wine and canapés afterwards.

ROSL ARTS Champagne Garden Party

Wednesday 22 July and 2 September, Over-Seas House London

Exclusive to Friends of ROSL ARTS, the annual Champagne Garden Parties are the highlight of the ROSL ARTS summer calendar. A Champagne reception in the Garden is followed by an hour-long concert by ROSL prizewinners. Commonwealth wines and sweet pastries are served afterwards. Existing Friends in June will receive an invitation to attend either the July Garden Party or Garden Party II in September.

Joining the Friends costs just £30 for ROSL members or £35 for non-members. Benefits include discounted tickets to

Friday 10 – Monday 13 July

Battlefield Tour of Waterloo and Mons

This year's ROSL Battlefield Tour explores Belgium and the strategic significance of this 'Fatal Avenue' in European history. Tickets £695; single supplement £100. Limited tickets; contact Members Events for availability.

Wednesday 15 July

'Conductors Unbecoming' with Gavin Henderson

**Over-Seas House London, 7pm**

Gavin Henderson draws on his career as a trumpeter with the D'Oyly Carte and Ballet Rambert orchestras, Chief Executive of the Philharmonia Orchestra, Director of the York Festival and Brighton Festival, and Principal of Trinity College of Music – a life which led him to the theatre. He is currently Principal of the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and Chairman of Judges for the ROSL Annual Music Competition. Tickets £7; Friends of ROSL ARTS £5. Includes glass of wine.

Wednesday 15 July

Club quiz

Over-Seas House London, 7.30pm

Get swotting for ROSL's new regular quiz night. Max team size six people; individuals will be placed in teams. Tickets £5. Includes glass of wine.

Thursday 16 July

London Group talk

Over-Seas House London, 6pm

Speaker to be announced. Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.

Monday 20 July

Afternoon tea at the House of Lords

Houses of Parliament, Westminster, 3.30pm

Traditional afternoon tea at the Palace of Westminster, hosted by ROSL President Lord Luce, with guests announced by an official toastmaster. Delicate sandwiches, delicious cakes, and scones with jam and cream are served in the Cholmondeley Room, with a splendid view from the Terrace across the River Thames. Tickets £36.50. Guests welcome. Bookings must be made by 14 July due to security.

Wednesday 22 July

Friends of ROSL ARTS Champagne Garden Party

Over-Seas House London, 6pm Exclusive to Friends of ROSL ARTS. See box, left, for details.

Thursday 23 July

YM croquet and Champagne in Edinburgh

**Meadows Croquet Club, Edinburgh, 6pm**

Join the Scottish Clubs Group at Meadows Croquet Club, followed by drinks at Over-Seas House. Tickets £22.50. See page 28 for details.

Monday 27 July

Visit to Lancaster House

**Cleveland Row, SW1A 1BB, 2pm**

Lancaster House was founded in 1825 for the Grand Old Duke of York. Now used for Government hospitality and as a film location, it is steeped in political history and magnificently preserved. This two-hour London Group tour includes the magnificent Staircase Hall, Great Gallery, decorated ceilings and objets d'art. Tickets £14; LG members £12.

Tuesday 28 July

'Barbara Hepworth: Sculpture for a modern world' Over-Seas House London, 7pm

In Association with the Art Fund. Barbara Hepworth is usually associated with St Ives, Cornwall, where she lived from 1939 until her death in 1975. Lecturer Linda Bolton will discuss how the major retrospective at the Tate emphasises the sculptor's often overlooked prominence in the international art world. Charting Hepworth's progress from small carvings to magnificent bronzes, the exhibition presents some of her most significant sculptures, as well as rarely seen works, including textiles, drawings, collages and photograms. Tickets £18. Book online at artfund.org/London or call +44 (0)844 415 4151. Includes wine reception afterwards.

Thursday 30 July

Champagne tasting in the ROSL Garden

Over-Seas House London, 6.30pm

It has been known as the 'wine of kings and the king of wines' since the 13th century, and apparently actress Marilyn Monroe took a bath in 350 bottles' worth. At the height of summer, ROSL is offering members a unique tasting experience in the newly-

renovated Garden. The club has a special connection with the celebrated Champagne house Chateau Gardet and, after an aperitif, Lynda Fiel, the Gardet Directrice Commerciale, will help us to explore three sensational samples. The event is matched by a French-themed post-tasting menu in the Restaurant. Tickets £22.50; guests £27.50.

AUGUST**Until Friday 25 September**

Louise Truslow watercolours

Duke of York Bar, daily

See July listing for details. Free.

Tuesday 4 August

Edinburgh film night

Over-Seas House Edinburgh, 5pm

A New York comedian reflects on his relationship with an aspiring Midwestern singer in this classic romantic comedy. Includes coffee, sweets and ice-cream. Tickets for entry and refreshments £7.50

Wednesday 5 August

Mariners, movies and the Mayflower

**Rotherhithe, 2pm**

Despite dramatic architectural renovations, much of Rotherhithe's seafaring and industrial history remains exposed. The old village seems lost in time and the wider area has many stories to tell. Connections with the Pilgrim Fathers, an unusual film studio, breathtaking views, 19th-century warehouses, contemporary sculpture, an 18th-century church and a community centre with a sinister secret all feature on this tour of one of London's lesser-known but character-filled districts. Tickets £15. Guests welcome.

Art Weekend

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 August, Over-Seas House London

Back by popular demand, this creative escape at the clubhouse caters to all skill levels. Artist and Director of the London School of Painting and Drawing, Tom Davies, again leads the two-day programme, focusing on painting and drawing lessons with a life model. Alongside a guided visit to an exhibition in one of London's fine art galleries, attendees will enjoy quality dining and, optionally, accommodation in your home-away-from-home.

Tickets £180pp; package with Saturday night accommodation from £252.50pp (double) or £270pp (single). Includes two full days of tuition, materials, life model, refreshments, two-course lunch each day and exhibition entry. Excludes evening drinks, dinner and travel. To book, contact Members Events. There are also special Friday and Sunday accommodation rates for those attending the Art Weekend. Contact reservations@rosl.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x217 quoting 'Art Weekend'.

**Thursday 6 August**

First Thursdays drinks

Duke of York Bar, Over-Seas House London, from 6pm

Monthly social drinks for Younger Members with free musical performances. Free.

Monday 10 – Friday 28 August

Music and MORE at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival ROSL ARTS heads to Scotland for its 16th annual series of events at the Festival Fringe. See page 29 for details of the expanded 2015 programme.

QUICK BOOKING INFORMATION

For full booking and contact details, see page 34

ROSL ARTS
+44 (0)20 7408 0214 x219;
roslarts@rosl.org.uk

ROSL Scotland
+44 (0)131 225 1501;
www.rosl-edinburgh.org.uk

Members' Events
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
+44 (0)20 7016 6906;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

London Group
Clive Carpenter; clivedavid
carpenter@compuserve.com.
For outside visits: Maureen Howley;
howleymaureen@hotmail.com

Younger Members
Book online at www.rosl.org.uk;
membersevents@rosl.org.uk

Discussion Group
No advanced booking required.
Free, drop-in events.

Saturday 15 - Sunday 16 August

Art Weekend

Over-Seas House London

Creative programme led by artist Tom Davies, including painting and drawing tutorials. See box, page 33, for details.

Thursday 20 August

London Group talk: 'The Crossrail Project'

Over-Seas House London, 6pm

With Patrick Griffin, Freedom of Information Officer at Crossrail. Free. LG members and overnight guests at Over-Seas House only.

Wednesday 27 August

Black-Tie Dinner in the Tower

Tower of London, 7pm

Enjoy a champagne reception in the Fusiliers' Museum, followed by a three-course dinner with wine and port in the Fusiliers' Mess. Then watch the Yeoman Warders perform the Ceremony of the Keys. Tickets £75; guests £85.

SEPTEMBER**Until Friday 25 September**

Louise Truslow watercolours

Duke of York Bar, daily

See July listing for details. Free.

Wednesday 2 September

Friends of ROSL ARTS Champagne Garden Party

Over-Seas House London, 6pm

Exclusive to Friends of ROSL ARTS. See box, page 32, for details.

Chairman's Lunch

Tuesday 17 November, Hall of India and Pakistan, Over-Seas House London, 12pm

Black Rod will be the speaker at our autumn club lunch, and we have assured him that no doors in the clubhouse will be slammed in his face! We welcome this most distinguished Guest of Honour at the first lunch hosted by the new ROSL Chairman Simon Ward.

Wednesday 9 September

Apothecaries' Hall

Black Friars Lane, EC4V, 11am

Home to the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, the Hall was part of the Dominican priory of Black Friars prior to its purchase by the society in 1632. Although the original building was destroyed in the Great Fire of London, the structure and arrangement of the Great Hall, Court Room and Parlour remain as they were rebuilt in 1668-1670, making it the oldest surviving livery hall in the City of London. On this visit, the London Group will see the building's most notable features and find out more about its history. Tickets £14; LG members £12.

Wednesday 23 - Sunday 27 September

Burgundy Wine Tour

**Burgundy, France**

Our special Burgundy Wine Tour, led by Director-General Roddy Porter, takes advantage of ROSL's unique connections with wine-producers and vineyards, and includes a guided visit to Beaune and tastings galore! Tickets £899pp; single supplement £198.

FULL BOOKING INFORMATION & CONTACT DETAILS**■ ROSL ARTS**

For bookings contact: +44 (0)20 7408 0214 x219; roslarts@rosl.org.uk

■ ROSL Scotland

For bookings contact: +44 (0)131 225 1501; reception@rosl-edinburgh.org

■ Members' events

Book online at www.rosl.org.uk. Booking confirmations will be sent within 14 days of payment. To reserve a ticket for popular events or if you have trouble booking online, contact Sara Brouwer. To pay by cheque, please send separate cheques (sterling) for each event, payable to 'ROSL', to Members' events, Marketing Department, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR. Contact: membersevents@rosl.org.uk; +44 (0)20 7016 6906.

■ Younger Members

For members aged 35 and under. Book online at www.rosl.org.uk/events. Inter-Club events must be booked independently; visit www.inter-club.co.uk for details. For information about the ROSL YM programme join the YM Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/roslym or contact: Sara Brouwer, membersevents@rosl.org.uk; or Ross Lima, ross.lima@gmail.com

■ London Group

Talks and outside visits are open to London Group members, their guests and ROSL members staying at Over-Seas House London. To become a member, request an application form from Clive Carpenter at clivedavidcarpenter@compuserve.com or +44 (0)7798 824193.

Talks are drop-in and held once a month at Over-Seas House London on Thursday evenings at 6pm.

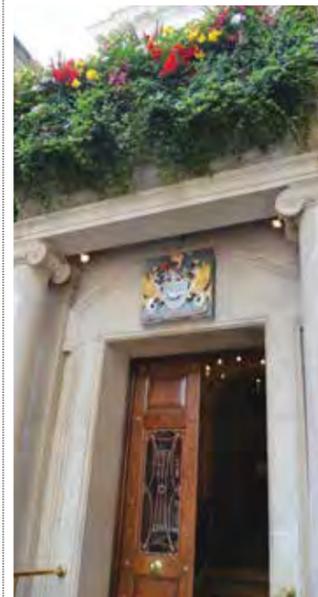
Outside visits can be booked by sending a cheque payable to 'London Group, Royal Over-Seas League' and a stamped, addressed envelope to Maureen Howley, London Group, c/o Porters' Desk, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR. Cancellations and refund requests must be made at least two weeks before the event.

Outside visit inquiries: Maureen Howley, +44 (0)20 8789 8506; howleymaureen@hotmail.com. Please note that the London Group is a voluntary organisation and cannot take outside visit bookings by email or telephone, only by post. Tickets are sent approximately 10 days in advance.

■ Discussion Group

Meetings are held at Over-Seas House London on Monday evenings. There is no charge, no need to book and all ROSL members and guests are welcome. For talk details, visit www.rosl.org.uk.

Visit www.rosl.org.uk/events for more information on the full programme of events.

**OPORTO**

A distinctive and charming city carved into the hillside at the mouth of the Duero river, Oporto has a history dating back to the Roman era and the heart of the UNESCO old town is remarkably unspoilt. Fuelled by trade the city accumulated a wealth which is displayed in the panoply of architectural styles from Romanesque to Neoclassical and Portuguese Manueline. Oporto is also the gateway to the picturesque Duero Valley and its famous Port houses – the Kirker Concierge would be delighted to arrange wine tasting, a day trip by boat, or perhaps a journey on the scenic railway.

Hotel Infante De Sagres ** Superior**

A hotel of immense character, set in a Neoclassical building, in the heart of the city on the Praca D. Filipa de Lencastre. The public rooms are all beautifully furnished with Oriental and European antiques, original paintings, tapestries and stained glass windows. The 74 bedrooms are well furnished and the hotel has an atmospheric bar.

4 nights for the price of 3 all year - price from £619, saving £120

**PRAGUE**

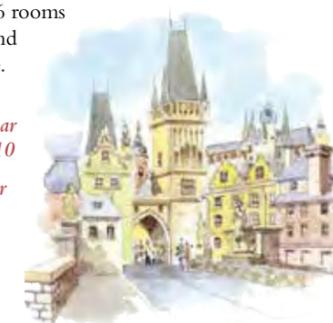
The old town of Prague survived its tumultuous 20th century remarkably intact, and visitors today will discover one of Central Europe's most magnificent mediaeval cities. At the centre of the Holy Roman Empire, Prague attracted architects and artists who created monuments, churches and palaces, as well as the dramatic Prague Castle and the Charles Bridge with its fascinating collection of statues and gargoyles.

Hotel Paris *****

In the heart of the atmospheric old town, the Paris is one of the few hotels in Prague where all the public rooms are still in the original Art Nouveau style. All of the 86 rooms have been renovated recently and are more contemporary in style.

3 nights for the price of 2 all year - price from £639, saving £110

Includes a 3 hour walking tour with an expert local guide

**CARCASSONNE & ALBI****SIX NIGHT ESCORTED HOLIDAYS | 16 MAY & 19 SEPTEMBER 2015**

For those who prefer to travel with a group of like-minded companions in the company of an expert Tour Lecturer, our escorted Cultural Tours offer a range of fascinating destinations, including the spectacular mediaeval city of Carcassonne in southwest France.

This popular tour is based at the pinnacle of the UNESCO protected citadel of Carcassonne, from which we explore the richly diverse and beautiful region. The area is best known for the Albigensian Crusades from the 11th century, a period of turbulence, bloody battles and massacres. We visit the rose pink city of Albi and Collioure on the Mediterranean: a charming fishing village associated with many artists. Our base is the 5* deluxe Hotel de la Cité, the only hotel built into the mediaeval city itself.

Price from £1,989 for six nights including return flights, accommodation with breakfast, three dinners, all sightseeing, entrance fees and gratuities and the services of the Kirker Tour Leader.



Speak to an expert or request a brochure:

020 7593 2283 quote code GRO

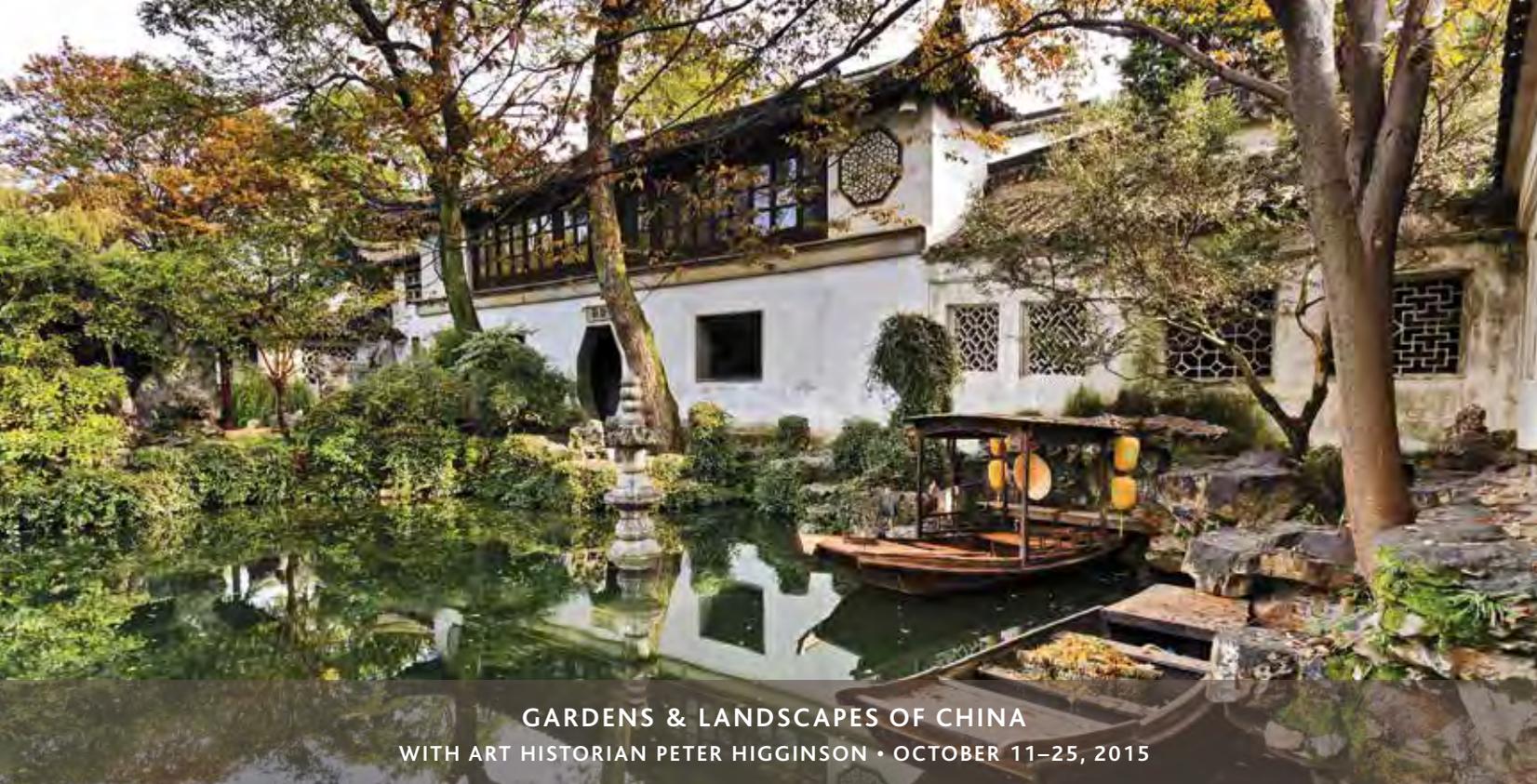
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